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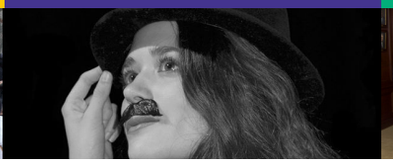

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THE CONGLOMERATE

the independent voice of Centenary College

OCTOBER 7, 2014

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THE MAROON SCARE

By Reily Cook '16

Amidst financial concerns from the recent freshmen Paris trip, many students have been wondering about the possibility of budget cuts in stirred confusion. While departments and committees are preparing for the possibility of cuts, as of yet none have occurred.

Sights like the outdated computers in the Physics lab are only one example that have given reason to theories that budgets were undoubtedly cut. But according to Mark Miller, Dean of Students, "The 2014-2015 budget has not been finalized yet," Miller said. "So no one knows definitively which or whether budgets will be cut." We will have to wait on news of any upcoming cuts, if they actually happen. Miller also stated that budget managers were asked to plan for the possibility of budget cuts. "We were asked to propose smaller budgets in case cuts are necessary. This caused many of us to worry that budgets will be cut, but thus far budgets have not been cut or increased—they just aren't finished, so nothing is final."

Dr. Beth Leuck of the Biology department also indicated that as of now, no budget cuts have actually occurred. "The science departments have been asked to come up with several budget scenarios if budgets are cut. No cuts have actually occurred yet. However, departments have no idea what their budgets actually are this year."

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

Student Eli Capello worries about the possibility of cuts because funding already appears insufficient in the Science departments. Besides the computers that need replacing in the Physics lab, Eli told me about how the neuroscience division has been both fundraising and consulting SGA to get funds to attend the Society for Neuroscience conference in Washington D.C. In the field of competitive science research, opportunities like the one in D.C aren't just extra activities, they are necessary events. He worries that, with possibility of cuts, this may be an even more difficult operation to keep up with.

Until the budgets for the 2014-2015 year are released, we will have to wait and see whether these low-budget scenarios are purely hypothetical or an indication of things to come.
But as of now, budgets have not been reduced.

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE, IT'S A...DRONE?

By Zachary Stielper '15

The Centenary Taxi is not the only new addition to the Department of Public Safety this year; as anyone who has spotted this toy-helicopter-esque device can tell you, DPS now owns an unmanned aerial vehicle, which has been affectionately nicknamed the "drone". Naturally, various conspiracy theories and questions have floated around the student body, the most sinister of which suggests that the device might be used to keep a closer eye on student activities. The term "drone" does not exactly inspire confidence, but rest assured: there are no missiles or weapons attached—just a video camera. Unlike the Centenary taxi, which was paid for by a grant from the Muses, the drone was fully funded by DPS.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

Thus far, the drone has been used to complete an aerial survey of the campus and review parking arrangements during large events on campus. DPS has also been working with our External Relations to provide a bird's eye view of our beautiful campus. These aerial images will be used in promotional material both in print and on the Internet. Athletic coaches have asked to have their practices videoed in order to analyze the team's performance from a more top-down perspective. Furthermore, the drone can be used to analyze roof integrity following storms and assess any damages that might occur.

For those students still concerned that Orwell's Big Brother may be a little too close for comfort, Chief Walker says that "the drone will not be used to 'spy' on students . . . this is just another tool we have that's available to help us serve the campus community." According to students who have witnessed the device first-hand, the drone sounds like an angry swarm of bees; it seems this drone is neither silent nor deadly.

THE FUNGUS AMONG US

By Tyler Sanders '17

A lot of student often complain about the housing situation on campus. But the truth is, our Residence Life Staff has been steadily working on projects that have been improving our quality of living. With these awesome renovations, students have been asking what is the situation with handling things like mold and bursting pipes.

I asked Monty about the mold problem found in Cline. Facilities found that some of the old ducts from the previous AC unit were opened and pushed warm, moist air into the rooms, causing the mold to grow. Monty said, "It's a surface mold that you can wipe off with your finger (but you should not), and it is not a super-mold specific to Centenary, just a typical Louisiana mold". In addition to the mold problem, a pipe burst in Rotary earlier this school year. This pipe could have caused serious damage had it been on a higher floor and inside the hallway.

Monty said, "Thankfully we have staff that is available and ready to help 24/7, and we were able to fix the problem and go forward. Things like this will happen, and we will fix them as they come up. Pipes burst, mold grows, and the nature of technology does not always work properly."

At least on Centenary's campus, there are people willing to stay on top of these problems and fix them.

CENTENARY SERVES

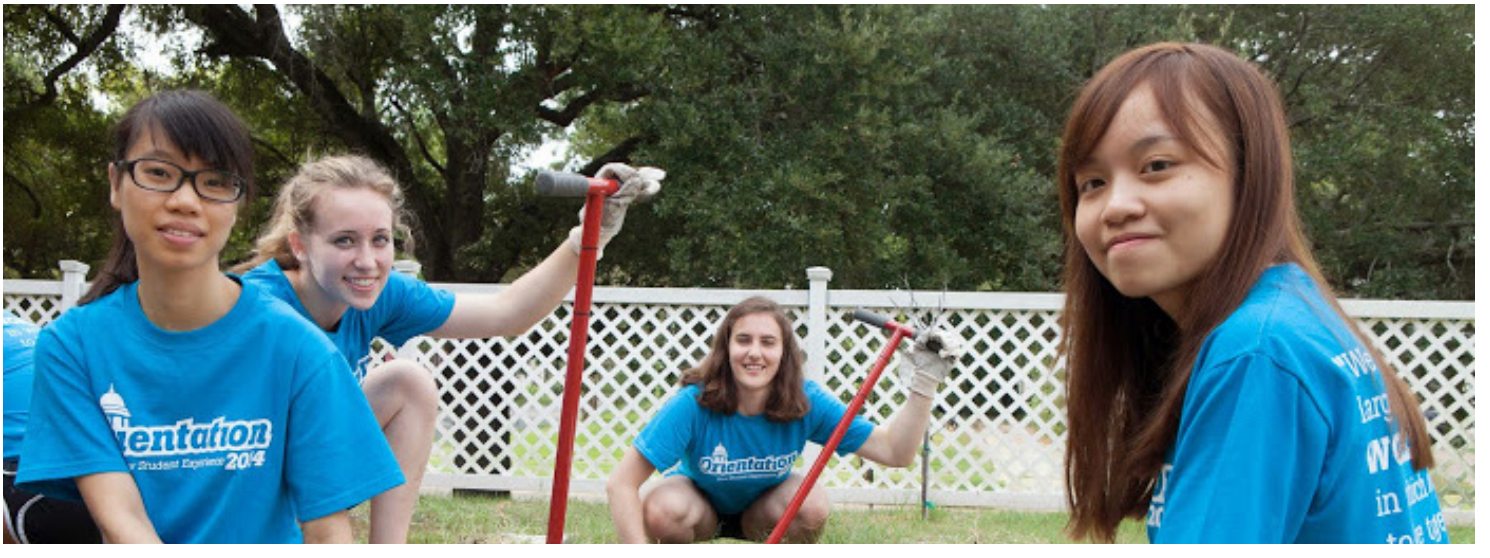
By Chelsea Glaspie '18

Martin Luther King Jr. once described our global community as "a large house, a great world house in which we have to live together." Centenary College has implemented this quote into the student's daily lives with the creation of the World Houses for Peace, Social Justice, and Environmental Sustainability.

On August 25th, First-Year students participated in Centenary's 2nd Annual World House service day in which students from each world house gathered together and ventured out into the Shreveport Community to make a difference. Social Justice partnered with the Fuller Center and Catholic Charities of North Louisiana. The students made blankets, installed shelving, and organized the clothes bank. Peace partnered with Community Renewal International to improve the Yellow House and a Safe House which serves as an after-school center. First-year student Elizabeth Singh, a member of the World House for Peace, said it was "great to be the helping hand in the world."
Sustainability partnered with Shreveport Green to work in Centenary's Garden.

Although this was only its second year, World House Service Day has had a huge, positive positive impact on our campus and surrounding neighborhoods. The Staff of Centenary love the day as much as the students. Ashlie Daigle stated her favorite part of the program is teaching students "what Centenary is all about: knowing about the world around you so that you can work hard to make it better, and make a difference." Chris Lavan, Director of Global Engagement, added that his favorite part was, "seeing the students make service and giving back to your local community a priority early on a Monday morning."

It is a clear consensus that World House Service Day will become a loved Centenary tradition in the future as we continue to serve our campus and the community.



Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS

by Hannah Still '17

The first power outage of the semester caused trouble for many students and faculty on campus. Electric issues occurred in the Student Union Building and the Marjorie Lyons Playhouse which caused internet outages and left the whole campus without power for almost 24 hours.
For some students, this may have simply been a small inconvenience and a welcome break from Friday classes; however, the power outage was the source of significant problems for many people on campus. Theatre students reported that the playhouse became filled with smoke due to electrical issues, and the fire department was called. The electricity had to be turned off in order for the malfunction to be fixed.
SWEPCO worked efficiently to get the lights back and fix the problem. By Saturday morning, the lights were back and Centenary was alive again.

FEATURE

WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE FRESHMAN

By Jessica Truong '18

There are many skeptics about Centenary in Paris, including current students, faculty, and many publications. We were expected to fail.

Some articles criticized Centenary in Paris from an educational standpoint. An article from Inside HigherEd said, "rowdy students new to college won't be able to control themselves and could get into trouble in France." However, Doctor Hendricks, counters this argument by saying, "In comparison to students who go on the May Module to Paris, for the most part juniors, the freshman were just as mature, comfortable, and self-confident as the upperclassmen.

The trip took 126 First-Year students (including myself) to Paris, France. The trip was paid for by the same students' tuition; only the incoming class was affected financially. Dean Miller elaborates: "Incoming Freshman students paid a higher tuition which included the More in 4 program, which involves an August and May immersion course where students can live on campus with no additional cost. Centenary in Paris was the August immersion course offered to the Freshman of 2018."

"Centenary in Paris was a once in a lifetime opportunity."

For most students, Centenary in Paris was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I have never been outside of the States with other classmates; I've been with family before, but there's something different about going as a class. I know students in my high school who have gone on multiple trips with their friends, but I never had the money to spend, nor could I possibly ask for it from my parents. Centenary in Paris opened up that door for me; I have never been able to learn the ways around a big city without my parents before now.

Centenary in Paris taught me the basics of travelling. For example I learned how to exchange currency, use public transportation, and get a passport. Learning the metro system gave me some confidence and a sense of independence.
Out of class, we were allowed to go anywhere in Paris as long as we were in groups of three and got back before midnight. Going out to explore Paris at night with dark blue skyline and lights sparkling along the Seine River with a group created a lot of strong bonds. In the morning, there were a group of freshman ladies who went running and never had any safety issues.

Dean Miller explains the influence this could have on a student: "Many people had never had to be outside the country or be on an airplane. To imagine that person say later, 'in my college career, I want to live in Hong Kong by myself' is almost unimaginable."

... Continued on pg. 16

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

"Why don't we throw 126 freshmen who have had less than a week to get know each other into a foreign country for ten days? What could go wrong?" I have to imagine something to this effect was spoken by someone during the planning stages for Centenary in Paris. On paper, this sounded like a great idea; there are definitely positives of the cultural experience we freshmen could gain by immediately immersing ourselves into the great pool of the world. This surely would create awesome, well-rounded students for the next four years. However, there were many factors that created much anxiety amongst my class.

PARIS:
PERSPECTIVES ON CENTENARY IN PARIS

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

First of all, less than a week to settle in on campus is ludicrous. Many students were still unpacking their rooms when we left, and many others had to pack for the trip before moving on campus. In addition to settling in, many students were already faced with heavy classwork. Next, the numerous flukes as a result of poor planning were abundant. As a whole, the Centenary team did very well considering the large class size. However, there was so much that could be improved during the time in Paris.

Let's begin with a basic survival need: rest. Due to the tremendous amount of coursework before leaving for Paris, getting enough rest to sustain us while we were making our transition into college was impossible. Then, add in the four hour bus ride, a nine hour plane ride, and a seven hour time difference. Once in Paris, our days consisted of fifteen hours of intense walking, climbing, and occasional running to keep up with the group.
Next, another basic need: food. We were given packed lunches that consisted of the same food each day. By the middle of the trip, most students were throwing the majority of their lunch away or not eating at all. The college used the same contractor, Sodexo, which is contracted to the cafeteria to provide the food. It was cheaper, undoubtedly, but most groups ended up stopping before dinner to eat somewhere else. That money spent on these lunches could have been allocated elsewhere.

Another almost unanimous complaint I have come across is the scooter tour. This was a universal activity for the students. The planners failed, however, to consider the fact that an entire group of people pushing a scooter through the busy streets of Paris would not be easy. It also rained. If you thought maneuvering a push scooter through Paris' busy streets was difficult on a dry day, it gets ten times worse when the streets are flooded.

> ***"Let's be honest, we're all college kids."***

Next, our accommodations were... interesting to say the least. Our rooms were not ready until after five the first day, and many did not get their keys until after dinner at eight. The walls were paper thin, and filing a noise complaint was equivalent to yelling at someone through the wall. We were told before we left not to get an international plan for our cell phones because the FIAP had Wi-Fi. It did. The problem occurred when you and two-hundred people tried to use it.

Also, partying. It happened. Let's be honest, we're all college kids. I'm not saying that it's bad, I'm just saying that the orientation mentors were instructed to tell the parents to respond with the word "safe" whenever Paris was brought up. "The FIAP will not let anyone in past midnight"…unless you can show a room key. That miniscule albeit very important detail was left out.
The next issue I have heard repeatedly was the culture shock. Very few students spoke French or knew how different daily interactions are in France. An hour presentation during orientation cannot prepare one for the drastic change that awaited us.

The biggest issue was the immaturity of students. We were freshmen entering college, after all. Most students who travel on module are not only older, but more mature. Expecting students who have barely graduated high school to be well behaved and mannered in a completely new environment is insane. In addition, the faculty is presumably used to working with older, more mature students. This caused much discord, as the students were not used to the freedom given by professors, and the professors were not used to chaperoning children while visiting another country. Many students have stories of getting separated from the group and getting completely lost.
...Continued on pg. 16

AVEC UN GRAIN

UPPERCLASSMEN

By Claire Matthews '17

International travel enriches us. It broadens our minds, exposes us to new ideas and ways of life, and gives us a sense of how big the world is that you just can't get from visiting the next state over. It also gives us a basis of comparison to our own country and forces us to confront the ways our government, culture, and society may be flawed. Travel is an invaluable learning experience that cannot be replicated in a classroom - this is why study abroad programs have become an integral part of a college education. This is one of the driving ideas behind this year's Centenary in Paris program.

College itself is a journey. It's the path many choose to adulthood and independence, and it's more than a means to an end. Employers know that, as a graduate from a Tier 1 liberal arts school like Centenary, you've received a particularly well-rounded education — that you've been trained to think critically, to adapt to change, and to lead — but the "college experience" is more than job preparation, it's life preparation. Learning goes beyond the classroom, and the skills that you accumulate outside of the prescribed curriculum are arguably the most important for success. Centenary's May Module program goes way beyond the classroom, giving students the opportunity to take travel to and learn in places like Greece, India, and Australia. However, even with the Passport Point program, most students can't afford to fund this type of international travel until their third or fourth year. By this time, it is often too late for students to make up their mind about study abroad programs.

"The students left Paris with a priceless new insight"

Centenary in Paris changed the game by combining traditional college orientation with the eye-opening experience of studying abroad, while also allowing the new freshmen to dip their toes in the waters of college classes and earn credit hours. The trip was treated as a vital part of the orientation and first-year education, with the cost factored into tuition so that students didn't have to pay out of pocket, making it distinct from the pricey, major-specific Modules. This unique immersive experience gave students opportunity to learn to adapt and thrive in new settings, to work together and be accepting of people's differences, and to make friends and create a support system all before their first day of classes.

Transplanting 126 nervous teenagers to a foreign country and teaching them an entire course's worth of information in a week seems like a rather ambitious project, requiring impressive planning, funds, and oversight to be successful, not to mention communication and cooperation between students, faculty, and administration. The program's execution may merit some criticism, as well as the lasting repercussions of its cost, but the students left Paris with a priceless new insight about the world. They received a valuable and engaging cultural experience to introduce them to what a liberal arts education and Centenary life are all about. For this, I commend the faculty who made the trip happen, and I congratulate the freshman for choosing Centenary and becoming world travelers before the age of 20.

By Joe Signorelli '15

Through exclusion, upperclassmen are automatically at a disadvantage of understanding Centenary in Paris. How could we ever fully understand? Obviously, we did not go on the trip, so what do we know about whether it was successful? There is only so much that pictures and stories can tell us about the effectiveness of such a program. What were the goals of Centenary in Paris?

In order to learn more about the desired results of Centenary in Paris, I spoke to some faculty members and administrators that attended the trip. In my conversations with them, some of the broad goals became abundantly clear: give the students a strong academic start, strengthen the relationships in the Centenary community, and expand their circle. Obviously, there is also the overarching goal of raising student attendance and retention to alleviate the rumored financial burden hanging over the college. But are these goals worth jeopardizing relationships with returning students?

One of the goals described to me was to strengthen the relationships in the Centenary community. Anyone can look around campus at this new freshman class and see the strong bond that Centenary in Paris has forged for them. Stories of the trip have focused less on the beauty of Versailles or the

DE SEL:

PERSPECTIVES (WITH A GRAIN OF SALT)

joy of the carnival and more on the friendships forged at these events. Considering the size of the class, their solidarity is a colossal achievement.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

However, the story could not be more different for the returning students. The rest of the student body is frustrated by the lack of communication and readily available information about programs that occur on their own campus. Any senior reading this is likely already rolling their eyes: bad communication with administration? Again?

For upperclassmen, poor communication has too often been a recurring theme at Centenary. Between tuition increases not being announced on campus during my first year and protesting a Board of Trustees meeting my second, this is what I—and many other students—have come to expect. After speaking to some faculty and administrators, one question became apparent: was Centenary in Paris rolled out too quickly?

During planning, there was little input from returning students; by the time we had seen the document that roughly described the event, it was being brought before the Board of Trustees. Eventually, there was a meeting in which the students concerns were addressed; however, as far as I could find, this question was only raised once, and attendance of that particular meeting was low. Perhaps the most heartbreaking part of this communication gap is that if returning students knew more about this program, positive attitudes towards the trip would probably have been more pervasive in the Centenary community.

Speaking to the new students about the condition of relations between Centenary administrators and themselves, things could not look better; students told me they felt closer to the administrators that were on the trip, but through orientation and getting to know the returning students, the remainder of Hamilton Hall administrators seemed distant and unaware of their concerns.

While this abroad opportunity may seem unfair to returning students, Centenary's recruitment and retention rates have risen since Centenary in Paris; this ensures the future of the college, which is a net gain for all students (not just freshmen).

The simplest and most manageable solution to fix the problems with Centenary in Paris is to improve the communication between administrators and students. Last year, there was only one meeting related to relaying information to students about Centenary in Paris. This method ensured that most students would miss the meeting and not have the opportunity to voice their concern. If instead there were several of these meeting with an open forum structure throughout the year and an open invitation to students and faculty, then there could be a rich and diverse pool of experiences that could be used to Centenary's advantage. The administration just needs to listen.

"Any senior reading this is likely already rolling their eyes: bad communication with administration? Again?"

FEATURE

FACULTY OPINION: SUCCESSES & CONCERNS OF CENTENARY IN PARIS

By Reily Cook '16

In the months before the Centenary in Paris trip, professors felt a mixture of nervousness, excitement, and skepticism. For some, such as Dr. Lisa Nicoletti of the Visual Arts department, her feelings drew from the fear of the unknown. "These were students fresh out of high-school," she said. "We weren't sure whether they could handle it well, and we weren't sure whether we could handle them well." Nicoletti had taken sophomores and juniors on modules before, but Centenary in Paris presented a whole new challenge—an exciting challenge, but one full of uncertainty.

On the other hand, Dr. George Newtown of the English department remained skeptical throughout. The trip was planned in haste, so consequently, much of the faculty was left speculating on liability issues, how the trip would benefit the students in a meaningful way, and importantly, how the trip would be paid for. "When the idea was presented to us, it was presented as if it were already going to happen," Dr. Newtown said.

Dr. Havird, also of the English department, had to plan his curriculum quickly because of the rushed planning of the trip. He worried how the freshmen students would handle the Paris.

All three professors told me they considered the trip a success.

It provided a powerful introduction into the college experience. Havird and Nicoletti both agreed that the freshmen handled the trip well, eagerly accepting the critical and dynamic thinking of liberal-arts students. Soon after the trip began, they knew that they could put away their reservations.

"I think they were able to experience Paris in a meaningful way. The students didn't just accept the sights and sounds as tourists; they experienced something meaningful," said Dr. Havird. He went on to describe a lesson he and co-teacher Dr. Jefferson Hendricks developed—the students were to write a letter home modeling the Paris letters of William Faulkner. He wished they had more time to work on the lessons, but he said that the students worked hard with the time they were given.

Dr. Nicoletti shared similar sentiments. "The students were so receptive to the experience. I think that throwing them into the college mindset in a setting like Paris provided them with a great sense of enthusiasm." Even when a rainy day forced her to rearrange lesson plans, Dr. Nicoletti said the students didn't complain. "Seeing how they've come back to campus with the confidence and enthusiasm they gained in Paris has been awesome." Dr. Newtown has seen a positive response in his FYE class this semester. "When I walked into class, the students were already talking and bantering with each other. Usually they're sizing each other up at the first of the year, but they'd already taken care of that. They'd already grown comfortable."

The three professors agreed that the Paris trip provided a dynamic experience for the freshmen to develop into students of the liberal-arts. Ambiguities about how Centenary in Paris will function in the future still need to be addressed, but the professors have seen a positive development in the students—Dr. Nicoletti and Dr. Havird during the experience itself and Dr. Newtown in his FYE class following the event. According to Dean Miller, the faculty have voted unanimously to do Centenary in Paris again, but Dr. Newtown suggests its future success will rely on addressing the planning, financial, and liability issues.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

WELCOMING NEW FACULTY & STAFF

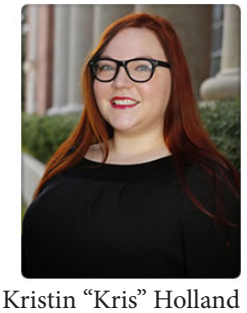
This year, Centenary welcomes several new faces to the faculty from all over the world. The relationship between Centenary students and their professors is held in the highest regard. We consider everyone who works for or attends this institution a part of the Centenary Family. The Students welcome all of our new Faculty & Staff! Get to know:

Robert "Bob" Blue
Vice President of Finance and Administration

Jenifer K. Ward
Provost

Jeff Herr
Men's & Women's Tennis Coach

Jennifer Hill
Director of Educational Outreach



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Conference and Events Coordinator

Kyle Joplin
Head Cross Country Coach, Assistant Swimming Coach

Dr. Kinsey Cotton Kelly
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Dr. Young J. "Paul" Kim
Visiting Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Cordara Newson
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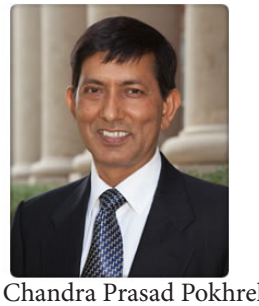
Dr. Dennis Poepsel
Assistant Professor of Psychology



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Visiting Assistant Professor of Physics

Dr. Jarret Richardson
Visiting Assistant Professor in Neurobiology

Michael "Logan" Sledge
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre

Jeannette Curtis
Public Access Librarian - Nights

Dr. Kathrine Weeks
Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry

ON THE RECENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

By Miles Robinson, SGA President

As the Student Government Association President at Centenary College, I have certain obligations to the student body. The most important of these duties I hold is the carrying of student concerns and voices to all levels of Centenary's administrative structure and to also notify and inform the student body of the policies and programs of Centenary's administration, including the College's Board of Trustees. With this said, I feel compelled to notify the students of Centenary of some recent changes that Centenary's Board of Trustees have enacted this past summer and why we, as the students, need to be very disturbed and alarmed at these changes.

On June 16th of this past summer, the Board of Trustees met on campus for a special meeting that was not on the Board's normal meeting schedule. I had been notified two and a half weeks in advance of the meeting, being told the meeting was "to propose changes to the Charter and By-laws" and that they were being presented to the Board by Dr. Tom Longin, a consultant for the Associatison of Governing Boards (AGB). I informed the President's Office that I would not be able to go to the special meeting, as I was going on an already planned family vacation out of the country. Upon asking for the specific proposals regarding the By-Law changes, I was given nothing that told me what these proposed changes actually were. It was not until early July that I was notified of what had happened. Allow me to quickly go through the relevant By-Law and Charter changes that were proposed and accepted by the Board of Trustees this summer:

A reduction in the number of ex-officio members on the Board from 7 to 2. Ex-officio members are members of the Board of Trustees by virtue of their position. For example, the president of the college, by virtue of being the president, gets to sit on the Board of Trustees. The Board's ex-officio members are allowed to vote and have the full privileges of any other Board member. The ex-officio members eliminated from the Board were the SGA representative, the two faculty representatives, the president of the Centenary Alumni Council, and the District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church.

After approving the above reduction, the Board approved a resolution to allow the SGA and the Alumni Council 1 delegate each and the faculty 2 delegates. However, these "delegates" ***will not be able to vote and can be asked to leave any meetings*** that the chair of the Board (George Nelson, Jr.) deems to be of a "highly confidential or sensitive nature".

The Board approved a restructuring of its committee structure, where their 10 former committees were consolidated into 6 committees. I have worked closely with the former Student Life and Academic Affairs committee, which have now become consolidated into an Educational Quality Committee. Before the consolidation, multiple different students sat on the Student Life Committee, such as the IFC, Pan-Hellenic, Choir, SGA, CAB, and SAAC Presidents. After this consolidation with the Academic Affairs Committee, ***no students are invited to the committee meeting.*** When I attempted to attend the meeting anyway, I was expressly told that students were not allowed into this meeting of administrators and Board members.

These changes to the highest level of authority at Centenary are egregious and deplorable. I am, without hesitation, against every one of these changes. This is a historic break in precedent for Centenary College. On May 10th, 1978, the students, faculty, and alumni of Centenary were granted the right to vote by President Webb and the-then Board of Trustees. For 36 years, we have been upholding our right to vote and listen in on every conversation of every full Board meeting, providing a perspec-

BY-LAW CHANGES: A LETTER

every conversation of every full Board meeting, providing a perspective of Centenary that cannot be replicated by any administrator. After 36 years of shared governance, an immense breach of faith has occurred.

This loss of the right for students, faculty, and alumni to have a vote on the Board is an issue of citizenship. We, having had our right to vote revoked, have been turned into 2nd-class citizens by our own Board of Trustees. We, apparently, are not worthy to vote on the Board, nor can we be trusted with issues that are "highly confidential or sensitive". Yet here at Centenary, students are not just consumers. We are joint arbiters of the future of this institution. We have a tradition at Centenary that students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the Board of Trustees work together for the betterment of this College.

The complete lack of trust that the Board has in the faculty, student body, and alumni is manifested in how these "delegates" can be kicked out of a Board meeting that is discussing sensitive information. It just takes one person--the chair of the Board--to decide whether what is being discussed is "confidential" enough to eliminate the faculty, student, and alumni representative from any discussion. This is an alarming amount of power in the hands of just one person, especially considering that there is no check system for such an action by the chair.

The inability of students to present their perspective of Centenary to Board members--who may only be on campus for a few days a year--is egregious. How can a discussion about 'Educational Quality,' which includes discussion of student life on campus, be conducted without any student input? Quite simply, it cannot, at least not without serious ignorance of the concerns of many students about Centenary's future.

These changes to the Board of Trustees only serve to strengthen fears that the Centenary upper administration and the Board of Trustees is unaware and uncaring of student, faculty, and alumni voices and concerns. Where have our closely held notions of shared governance gone?

SGA conducted a student survey last spring where we polled students about their views on Centenary as a whole. Of the 119 students who answered the poll, ***50% stated that they would not recommend Centenary to a friend***. In addition, ***95.8% stated that they are worried about the future of Centenary*** (52.9% within that stat stated "Extremely Worried"). Dr. Rowe is aware of these statistics. Yet, when these changes came before the full Board, he failed to notify the Board of how this proposal to disenfranchise the students would only strengthen the view, held by a majority of Centenary students and faculty, that the highest circles of power at Centenary have turned their back on student and faculty input.

Fellow students, I exhort you to spread this information of what our Board of Trustees have done to your peers- let them know how we have been dealt another blow to shared governance. I also encourage each of you to attend SGA's Talk With Your Mouth Full, on October 9th at 12:00pm. Talk With Your Mouth Full is a program SGA puts on every semester where Centenary students, while eating lunch in the Caf, can speak one-on-one with Centenary administrators like our President and Provost in the Centenary Room. It is a great opportunity to get to know our administrators and voice opinions and concerns to them in an informal and cordial environment.

To any Board of Trustees members that are reading this: is reducing these ex-officio members truly worth this sense of betrayal and effacement that faculty, students, and alumni are beginning, and will continue, to feel towards the Board? Are the so-called "national best practices" of other Boards the best practice for Centenary? The Centenary community highly values communication, transparency, and shared governance, as well as our individuality among our peer schools. What works for other college's Board of Trustees may not be what works for ours. I hope that you, as Board members, can understand my immense apprehension at these new changes and that you work to communicate with the students and faculty about how we can mend this growing rift of communication and trust. I am certain that we can find a solution to this issue and work together to continue to make Centenary College the wonderful institution that we all know it to be.

Forward, Forward Centenary,

Miles Robinson
President
Student Government Association

LOOKING BACK: CENTENARY'S *THE CONGLOMERATE*

By Jacob Robison '15

The first issue of the newly named student newspaper of Centenary College was distributed on Friday, October 13th of 1922. Before this, the student newspaper had been called The Maroon and White. We only have access to the older records of the school newspaper thanks to the work of Chris Brown and the Archives Department.

It started as a typical hail to beginings, speaking of the college's undying spirit. The ultimate purpose of the students running the paper at the time was "to promote, encourage, and make more secure the bond of friendship between student and teacher." At the time, the paper was trying to help repair the rift between students and teachers, opposed to the rift that exists now between students and higher administration.

These writers would go on to declare that the newspaper would not be held together by one man and that no one person would ever shoulder the major responsibility of the publication alone. It's safe to say that this is where the name Conglomerate was derived.

"It is only with this support that the paper can justly be called a paper of the students, for the students and by the students."

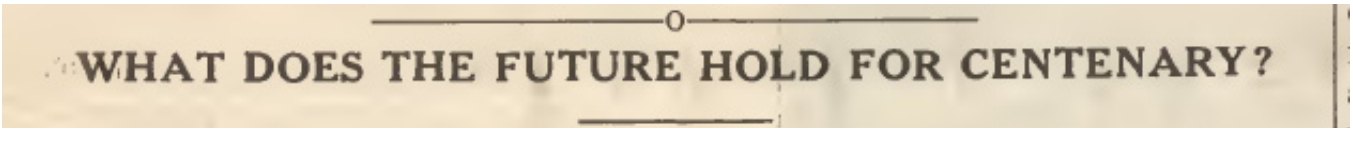
Even at this time, the school newspaper was greatly critical of the future of Centenary as a whole (and also referred to the school as "she" quite a lot). The writers talked about how the school at this time was finally growing beyond the image of a simple private school to something much greater than that; everyone involved was optimistic about the future. The first editorial of the new paper spoke of the new year and of renovation and reconstruction after "Days of Civil War."

At this point in the text, the diction seemed to change to almost salvational. "Thanks to that higher Power, she was safely guided over the infant days, through the sheer insight and determination of its leaders." The writers went on to say that the leaders at this time had seen the future, "and knew that a greater life and future awaited Centenary."

Do you think that it was us that those men saw?
Are we part of that greater life and future?

The Conglomerate now strives to again "secure the bond between student and teacher" with the additional aspiration to build bridges of communication with our administration. We are the independent voice of Centenary College, after all.

If you're curious to see more of The Conglomerate's history or other publications,
check out: http://www.centenary.edu/library/archives
Special thanks to Chris Brown, Centenary's Archivist, for always helping us out with research.



BOOK BAZAAR ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR MUSES

By Jessica Truong '18

Why were people lining up for in front of the Gold Dome with backpacks, totes, and empty suitcases? Simple: they were planning to fill those containers with books. Not just a few books, but stacks upon stacks of books. On September 5th and 6th, The Muses and Centenary College held its 28th annual Book Bazaar in the Gold Dome, which boasted a collection of over 80,000 books donated for the event. The Book Bazaar is a yearly event where all sorts of books, DVDs, and records are sold at prices as low as 25 cents.The Book Bazaar makes an impact in the community by bringing people from all over the city together in one place; this was all made possible through the hard work of the Muses of Centenary College. People from all around the community come to purchase books, and volunteers of all ages work the cash registers and keep the tables stocked.

COMMUNITY UNITED

By John La Costa '18

This September, Shreveport hosted the North Louisiana Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, an event promoting diversity, acceptance, and the art of cinema not only to our state, but to our school. The festival was hosted by the Robinson Film Center and organized by PACE, "a nonpartisan organization that works to advance equality in Northwest Louisiana [on behalf of LGBT]."

Courtesy of Robinson Film Center

Centenary Coordinator of Residence Life Montgomery Mewers had much to say on the festival's impact on the community. "The Robinson Film Center took heat from some local politicians merely for allowing [PACE] to rent it as a venue for the festival," he said. "Those who would have been silenced spoke up and… those who might not have cared much before that threat joined in to take a stand." Monty was also more than ecstatic for the films themselves: "I ambitiously purchased a ticket for every movie" he said. The festival featured everything from comedies, such as The 10 Year Plan, to documentaries chronicling contemporary LGBT stories.

Amongst the documentaries played were To Be Takei, an account of Star Trek legend, George Takei, and his life as a leader in the gay community. As well as the 2013 hit Matt Shepard Is a Friend of Mine, a documentation of teen hate crime victim Matt Shepard—who died of subsequent injuries following his assault in 1996—and the beauty his loved ones saw in his life. Centenary was honored to be visited by Matt's mother, Judy, who spoke about how the pain of her son's passing gave her the strength to advocate love and acceptance on his behalf. Sophomore Brittany Rapp was one of many students to appreciate Mrs. Shepard's campus presentation "I thought it was wonderful to hear about an open-minded parent's perspective on having a gay child, and how she battled discrimination in her isolated community because of [her son]."

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

The Muses of Centenary, a philanthropic group dedicated to funding projects and programs for Centenary students, have helped make the Book Bazaar a reality for years. The Muses organize volunteers and boost the energy of everyone involved. Overall, the Bazaar has raised more than $1 million dollars to aid the college. This money goes toward things like ballet barres for use in the "Dancing with Parkinson's" program. Centenary College provides the venue, the Gold Dome, and Centenary's Department of Public Safety provides security for the event. You can contribute by donating books at Centenary Square at Centenary Square or signing up to volunteer for the 29th Book Bazaar!

THE ROARING RAPIDS OF *THE AMERICAN WILDERNESS*

By Tyler Sanders '17

Everything started when Reily Cook was a junior in high-school and forged into the unknown territory of the American Wilderness. I met with the band members, Reily Cook, Patrick Weidner, and Logan Settoon in KSCL's radio booth to delve into the history of the 5-piece phenomenon. Reily told me that he co-founded *The American Wilderness* with Connor Dunlap in his Junior year of high school.

Reily said, "I mean, I had been playing music under the name of *The American Wilderness* since Junior year, which would have been 2010, so for about four years now." The lineup has changed since the start four years ago; current members Patrick and Logan have seen one lineup switch.

I asked Reily what music had inspired the band's music, but he said that it was never one specific genre that gave him the pure inspiration for their sound. Reily, Logan, and Patrick all agreed that each member's personal interests are in the present music. One song in particular, "Breathe", was directly influenced by the 90's grunge movement.

Reily told me that, "The focus of *American Wilderness* is mainly about Alternative Rock mixed with the up-beat and catchy sensibilities of pop."

In the future, the band as a whole would like to continue writing and making music together, even if immediate contact is not available. All three guys said that making music together was a lot more fun than what they had expected it to be, and would love for it to continue. The guys are also going into the KSCL booth in October, and very often play at the Chicago.

Show the band some love on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheAmericanWilderness!

EVERYONE'S AN ARTIST

Photo: John La Costa

By John La Costa '18

Upon the return of the 2014 freshmen from their Parisian excursion, many of the immersion courses offered their students the rare opportunity to feature their work from their time abroad in Centenary's own Meadows Museum. Students not normally involved in artistic endeavors were able to express their creativity in a public way. "I've never been much of an artist, so it was really cool to have finally made something worth displaying" said Taylor Ackerman, a freshman who took part in the Psychology and Imagery of Les Miserables. As one of the concluding projects of the course, Taylor and her classmates were given 24 hours to design a collage of what they metaphorically saw in their Parisian excursion.

In regard to the projects as a whole, Taylor "thought [the time frame] was absolutely f-ing ridiculous... [but] it was really cool for people to show what they saw in Paris that I may not have seen". Along with Taylor, other freshmen featured in the Meadows Paris Gallery were Billie Lynn and Landon Pate.

Dr. Nicoletti and Professor Bruce Allen now strive to make the Meadow's more marketable for younger audiences.

WE LIKE *AS YOU LIKE IT*

By Joe Signorelli '15

Love. Exile. Beginnings. In the beginning of October, The Centenary College Theatre Department was proud to present their production of William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.

Centenary alumnus and Captain Shreve High School teacher Heather Hooper directed the production of the audience favorite. The Centenary Theatre Department is currently in a state of transition: welcoming a new acting and directing professor, Logan Sledge, as well as one of the largest Freshman theatre classes in several years. So, when given the opportunity to direct a show for the department, Heather took special care to pick a show that fit the department as closely as possible.

"Our society," she explains, "no longer understands banishment". This disconnection from the modern frame of mind is only one of several difficulties in staging a show of this size. Connecting to a modern audience quickly becomes the highest priority. Heather has overcome this by making the production as intimate as possible in two dynamic ways: modern dress and theatre-in-the-round. Simply put, theatre-in-the-round is theatre performed in a circle; that is, the action takes place on a stage that is surrounded by seats on all sides. In MLP's variation, the bottom row of seats [were] directly in contact with the stage and the actors [were] only a few feet away at any given time. The greatest benefit of theatre-in-the-round is the constant movement it requires and the audience contact it allows. "[Theatre-in-the-Round] really pulls an audience in," says Heather. "[It] crams them into a story."

Photo: Lorna Street Dopson and the Centenary Theater Dept.

Continued from Truong's page 4... Dr. Hendricks points out another benefit of Centenary in Paris: "One problem commonly seen in most freshmen is that they seem lost for the first three to four weeks of college. Centenary in Paris made the transition to college easier. Two positives I've seen are that students bonded together in a positive way and an increase of school spirit."

The classes of Centenary in Paris were rigorous. The shock of the hard school work was beneficial in preparing the other freshman and me to expect a heavy workload and how to deal with it. Dean Miller described this part of the experience as a "bridge between structured high school and completely unstructured college." Statistics show that the average GPA of freshman of last year during their first term was 2.86. In comparison, the average GPA of Centenary in Paris students after their first class was 3.4.

There is a lot to look forward to if Centenary in Paris continues, because we are now more prepared for future trips. Look forward to new statistics answering questions regarding the future of this program. It can only get better from here!

Continued from Glaspie's page 5... As this experience draws to a close, I have to question the real reason behind Centenary in Paris. I want to believe it was solely for the cultural experience and the enhancement of students. The reality is that it was a poorly planned marketing scheme.

As many described to me, despite numerous flaws, Paris was a life-altering trip. I have to agree. My professors were amazing, and I will forever be impacted by my coursework. Several other students expressed gratitude for the experiences, the faculty connections, and the friendships they found.

Dear Reader,

This being my first letter to you, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Alysea "Aly" Velasquez and I'm a sophomore studying Communication with a concentration in Professional Writing. As a military brat, my excessively nomadic lifestyle has blessed me with the ability to adapt to frequent change, but it has also left me without a hometown. My love for Centenary is ever-growing, for it is the first place I have ever truly felt at home. This is why I believe constructive criticism is key in this newspaper. I've been working hard on the planning of The Congo all summer, and I'm so excited that you are finally holding my first issue in your hands!

My vision for The Conglomerate reflects the one of my predecessors. As you read in this month's "Looking Back" (page 12), the pioneers of The Maroon and White aspired "to promote, encourage, and make more secure the bond of friendship between student and teacher." I hope to do the same, with the additional goal of building bridges of communication with our administration.

I vow, to the best of my ability, to ensure that the words and opinions of the students are the main priority in all issues of The Conglomerate. It is dire that our voice be ever expressed — no matter the circumstance. I urge my fellow students to take part in such public discernment. Your voice does matter, and your voice will always have the support of The Conglomerate.

As the staff of The Maroon and White declared in their first issue: "It is only with [multiple students running the newspaper] that the paper can justly be called a paper of the students, for the students and by the students."

Aly Velasquez,
Editor in Chief

Please send us your comments and concerns! Email the staff at cconglomerate@gmail.com

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THE CONGLOMERATE

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF CENTENARY COLLEGE

VOLUME 92, ISSUE 2

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SENATE DEBATE: A PRETTY BIG DEAL

SHREVEPORT, LA — On October 14, 2014, our college experienced an event truly important to our democratic society: The 2014 Louisiana Senatorial Debate! The debate was televised live from Marjorie Lyons Playhouse. Maroon banners bearing our name in white hung just above the action. Many students were ecstatic about being able to attend the event.

Senior Ben Sanchez, who snatched up an extra ticket last minute, said, "This opportunity is a once in a lifetime chance... A few friends of mine that go to LSU Baton Rouge called me up today and they were like, 'Ben! That's Centenary! Your college isn't imaginary, after all!'" Dear Tigers, we told you so.

Entering the theatre with Ben was senior Emily Harmayer. "Tonight is an excellent opportunity for Centenary to get its name out there. I'm excited for my fellow classmates to be so involved in this debate because it'll get my peers and I inspired to think about the democratic process." Dean Mark Miller felt the same way. "No one will pay attention to student issues unless student vote!"

Elizabeth King, who is an intern for Community Services, noted that she would have never have the opportunity to help set up for such an event if it wasn't for Centenary. "I am just really overwhelmed and grateful. It feels good to have had influence on something so important as this debate."

Entering the auditorium, this reporter was proud to see our Maroon Jackets holding doors for the spectators, and ushering people to their seats. Maroon Jacket Laura Deen, said "This event is great for our campus — but even better for highlighting this institution's values. Debate is where we see liberal arts come alive. The opportunity for Centenary to host this event is the opportunity to let Louisiana see our values in action!" Freshman Gage Dabin added to this sentiment: "It's great to be here because I've only been in college for two-ish months and I get to see my passion for politics live!"

Alumni Lea Hair was also able to attend the event as Ashlie Daigle's plus-one. "It was wonderful seeing something so important and interesting at my Alma Mater, and it was even more wonderful to take a break from scary adult life and be back here!"

JOANNA WARREN ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS

By Claire Matthews '17

Senator Mary Landrieu's October 3rd visit to Centenary was a big deal for the school, but an even bigger one for junior Political Science major Joanna Warren, who organized the event. She was approached this summer by Campaign for Louisiana, part of Landrieu's network, and has been working on their behalf ever since to rally voters on campus and in the Highland area. After the success of the Talk with Mary event, and her rousing speech at the Women for Mary Luncheon on the same day, I sat down with Joanna to find out how she felt and what she learned from the experience.

What was it like meeting Mary?

Joanna: I was a little starstruck — just a little taken aback, like "I've seen her face on TV." But she's very approachable, easy to talk to; she has the classic Southern politeness and charm. You can also tell that she's a hardass and that she's very professional and intelligent, and that's something that I immediately respected, especially since she's a woman who's been in the Senate for 20 years — there's been huge changes in the congressional environment since then, and she was one of the first important women in Senate. In that way she's kind of my hero.

What kind of challenges did you face planning this event?

Joanna: In terms of actually throwing the event, something that threw me off was that the day before, they wanted to move it from 1 pm to 2 pm, and I was like "No, I can't do that." It's hard for me in this situation, because I was thinking solely on a small-scale, Centenary level -- throwing this event for centenary, whereas Mary Landrieu and her people were thinking "This is for the campaign." Just being able to accept that, that this is the nature of a political career is that things are going to change last minute, and it's not personal. ... I think with any big-name person, whether they be a politician or a celebrity, they're the big deal, they're the main show, and the externalities of whatever decisions they make are just not their problem. But I guess if you work hard enough, that's where you get to be!

Do you think you learned a lot from this experience?

Joanna: Definitely. So I'm kind of like in this interesting phase of my college career, wanting to decide whether with Political Science I want to go the law route, or the actual politics route, and after this I realized I love this. I love campaigning, I love the strategy and the game that goes into it. It's really fun, and as an intern I didn't really have anything to lose, I was just there to learn. I learned a lot about what works when trying to get people to care about voting, and what definitely doesn't work — people definitely don't like getting their doors knocked on, especially if they have a Mitt Romney sign still in their front yard. I probably should have just skipped skipped that house.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

From left: Marilyn Wells, Joanna Warren, Sen. Mary Landrieu, and Grayce Randolph

To those wishing to follow in her footsteps, Joanna says: "be aggressive, and be bold with causes you care about."

N.O.W. THAT'S WHAT I CALL EMPOWERING

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

Condoleezza Rice once said, "A difference is often made by one person who is fed up and is willing to act." Simone Byrd is that "one person."

Simone, a sophomore, is one of the leading activists at Centenary. Recently, Simone has become recognized on a national level by news outlets like the Los Angeles Times. As President of Centenary's National Organization for Women (NOW), Simone has brought light to otherwise ignored issues. One of these, the Emma Sulkowicz event, proved to be far larger than she could have imagined.

Emma Sulkowicz, a senior at Columbia University, was brutally raped in her own bed. The school officials have made no progress in her case. To protest the lax sexual assault policies, Emma created a unique protest. She now carries her mattress with her wherever she travels on campus.

Simone, inspired by her courage and creativity, decided to take action, staging the event "Solidarity for Emma." DPS brought educational materials on campus assault and informed the students about the laws and policies governing this heinous crime. The climax of the event came when the students hoisted a mattress into the air showing that they were helping to "carry the weight." A picture of this powerful statement was taken. It was soon featured on the Facebook page entitled "Carrying the Weight Together."

Simone was then interviewed by Centenary External Relations and featured on the school website. From there, her story continued to blossom. Recently, she was interviewed by KSLA, our local news station.

When asked what she would tell Emma if they could ever meet, Simone replied "Your work is important, and we are so thankful you are healing."

Simone believes the most important part of her work is starting a conversation. She believes sexual assault on campus is a huge problem everywhere and steps should be taken to prevent it and provide help for survivors.

Simone has already started planning events to continue this important forum. She would like to co-sponsor a "Males against Violence" educational session with Inter Fraternity Council (IFC).

Sexual assault is not her only priority, however. With NOW, Simone hopes to rid our campus of the feminist stigma and educate students about contraception and reproductive rights.

In addition to her work with women's rights, Simone is an active member of Outreach, RHA, Student Ambassadors, PBL, NRHH, and Diversity Committee; she also has a course load of 18 hours. She is truly Superwoman. It is an honor to have her on our campus!

DIGITIZE THE OLD AND THE NEW

By Tyler Sanders '17

Gents have a unique chance to share their personal perspective through student-run publications and shape Centenary's history. The words we put into the Paper dictate what will be remembered years to come by Centenary. Chris Brown, the Archivist of the College, is finishing up the last few steps of digitizing every single copy of The Conglomerate and The Maroon and White for online access. Our Paper has been in publication since 1921!

Chris Brown and I sat in the basement of Magale Library, surrounded by shelves packed with every document ever published by Centenary.

Brown said, "The newspaper is special because it offers the history of Centenary from the perspective of the students. The students create the content, and The Conglomerate documents the life of the college through their eyes." He continued to say, "In some cases, the newspaper represents the only source documenting certain events, organizations, and athletics on campus." He found that students have not been going to Paris and the rest of Europe just recently; "newspaper articles published in the 1930s provide details about Centenary students touring Europe."

Digital archives provide convenient ways to access old documents. The paper storage system is too tedious when retrieving information and providing access to materials for archive patrons, and the archived hard copies decay over time.

The Women's Endowment Quorum funded the first phase of this operation in 2012, starting with the 1959-1975 editions. The next part of the project finished digitizing 1975-1990. This part was funded by the Centenary Muses, the same wonderful group who hosts the Book Bazaar every Fall! The final stage of the project involved digitizing the remaining newspapers between 1921-1959, and then 1990-2014.

Pre-1959 issues were scanned at the LSUS Archives because of their fragile state. The other two phases involved shipping more stable copies to be scanned and uploaded onto a storage drive. There have been several student workers over the years helping with this project: Hope Vollm, Kayla Ruth, and Jacob Robison.

The Conglomerate Staff and Chris Brown will be throwing a celebration event for the completion of digitizing all of the copies of The Conglomerate and The Maroon and White. Stay tuned for more details!

The Congo Staff would also like to thank Chris Brown for his dedication to our school's history. We will forever appreciate all of the hours you have put into this tool for all who love Centenary! You rock!

The Conglomerate

Carillon Chimes Donated to Centenary by Paul Brown

Kappa Chi To Hold Initial '63 Meet

Athletic Department To Offer Shooting Course

ATTENTION

MSM Presents Dramatic Dialogue

Nancy Lucky Chosen AWS Judicial Chairman

Fairchild Addresses Library Clubbers

Gift Books Are Valuable Service To Gent Library

NOTICE

You can find and search the digital archives online at: http://www.centenary.edu/library/archives/college/digitalcollections

ELI'S ON A ROLL (JUST NOT A GENDER ROLE)

By Hannah Still '17

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

Centenary student Eli Capello has received attention from the Science community for all the right reasons. Recently, the science publication *Nature Magazine* interviewed Eli and recognized him as representative voice of LGBT people in the science community.

When discussing how he came to be interviewed, Eli told The Conglomerate about meeting with Mitchell Waldrop, the article's author. "I came across my interview with Nature because of the activism I do for the LGBT community outside of Centenary," Eli told us.

After receiving LGBT Student of Merit scholarship his freshman year, he was given an LGBT mentor to guide him in his field of choice. According to Eli, mentors are very important to members of the LGBT community due to the lack of representation seen in almost all fields, but especially in scientific fields like his chosen path: Neuroscience.

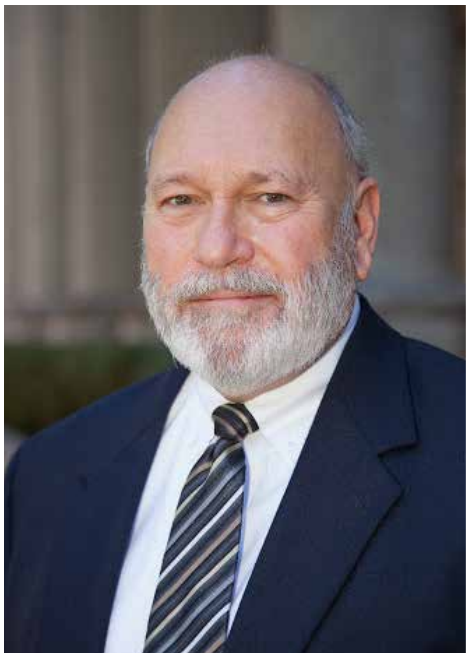
Much of Eli's scientific journey thus far has been eradicating sexism in research. In his latest project, he produced a manuscript with former Centenary professor, Dr. Greg Butcher, that identifies a gender bias in Parkinson's Disease research. Despite Parkinson's being a disease that affects a very sex-specific part of the brain, their findings showed that female rats were used far less than male rats in studies. Only 20 percent of male scientists used both male and female rats in their research while 50 percent of female scientists utilized both genders.

He told KTBS in an interview: "Because female rats have a pretty regular cycle, some scientists think it's a waste of time to use them for research and that it probably 'won't make a difference,'" said Capello. "But nowhere else in science would we just assume something doesn't matter. We would test it."

As for Centenary's acceptance and representation of LGBT students, Eli feels we are moving in the right direction. "As far as policies go, residence life, student life, and admissions have started to include trans people in their policies. This was due to Safe Zone 101 training, and hiring student life workers that understood the problems the LGBT community faces and were sympathetic to them."

After being interviewed for *Nature*, Eli was also mentioned in the Shreveport Times, as well as on Centenary's website; he has been a great representative for Centenary. The student body is #CentenaryProud to call you a part of our family!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES HIGHLIGHTS:



Dr. Harold Christenson

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

By Aly Velasquez '17

On October 16, 2014, President Rowe sent out highlights from the Board of Trustee's meeting to the College. We sat down with Dr. Christensen, Professor of Economics and Director of Center for Economics Education, to explain some of the economic jargon featured in the email.

"Dear Members of the Centenary Family,

The Board of Trustees met today and took the following actions, which I believe to be of general interest to the community.

- Endorsed the Executive Committee's prior approval of an amendment to the Endowment Spending Policy, allowing the administration to spend up to 5% of a 20 quarter rolling average of the College's endowment market value. The former cap was 4.5%. This will provide much needed additional revenue this year and going forward, decreasing pressure on expenditures somewhat and on other revenue streams as we maintain our discipline of balancing the operating budget.

Doc C: A "quarter rolling average" is better described as "spending rules" that say how you can draw down the spending. Think of the endowment like a stock. The size of endowment depends on the market, and contribution from donors and student tuition. Also, 5% endowment is closer to the national average. Although the actual figures have no been released, we know now that the budget for this school year is 5% of our overall endowment.

- Set a maximum tuition increase for Fall 2015 of 3% over the current tuition rates. This increase applies independently to each of the two tiers of tuition currently in place, i.e. no current student's tuition would increase more than 3% next year. By setting a maximum, the board is giving the administration flexibility to set the tuition rate this fall or winter, prior to packaging aid and after more enrollment data and budget data are available.

- Approved a budget for the current fiscal year (2014-2015). Features of the budget are:

- Balanced on an operational basis. Revenues exceed expenditures slightly.

- Incorporates 80% ($1.8 million) of the depreciation costs we are phasing in over 5 years. So, although the budget will be balanced on an operational basis, we will show a deficit for the 20% of deprecation not budgeted.

Doc C: Depreciation costs are required by our accredit-ors. It is an allocate fund called designed to support our physical plant, or maintenance of our campus. There is difficulty for small private colleges in keeping our buildings in good shape because we're worried about spending money on instruction. Centenary is currently in the process of building that fund up.

ECONOMIC JARGON DECODED

➤ Incorporates very ambitious auxiliary enterprise, educational enterprise and giving revenue goals in order to decrease pressure on expenditures. We need all members of the community to pull together to assist in meeting these revenue diversification and maximizing targets this year or we will have to cut expenses to stay within our revenue limitations.

> ***Doc C:*** Auxiliary enterprises are what the College uses generate profits. The book store, Caf, fitness center, building rentals, the short course taught by Dr. Morgan that teaches a literature to old ladies, sports camps, the orchestra program and the Master of Arts and Teaching and Business Administration — anything the College sells is an auxiliary enterprise.

➤ Incorporates a commitment on behalf of the cabinet to make very modest mid-year increases in salaries for faculty and staff. More details will come from your respective cabinet members.

> ***Doc C:*** If there's money... In my 30-40 years teaching here at Centenary, pay adjustments during the year have not been an irregular phenomenon. In the past, we received raises for large classes, and in the 70s, the faculty voted to take 10% pay cuts to prevent anyone from being laid off. However, because most departments have, in fact, taken 30% budget cuts for this semester, many faculty members are really hopeful that there will be raises considering that we are now forced to fund our own supplies, travel, and research.

➤ The board noted that a budget is a "living, breathing document" and they will be monitoring our revenue generation activities very closely this year and may ask us to adjust the expense budget mid-cycle if we are missing revenue targets.

➤ Voted to appoint Dr. Chad Fulwider with continuous tenure and to promote him to Associate Professor. Congratulations on these well-deserved distinctions, Dr. Fulwider.

Your cabinet members will be able to elaborate on some of these actions items as needed and will also be able to provide faculty, staff and student budget managers with guidance related to FY15 program budgets.

Thank you for your interest in and concern for the well-being and advancement of Centenary College.

Sincerely,
David Rowe

B. David Rowe, Ph.D.
President
Centenary College"

BoT BYLAW CHANGES:

By Zachary Stielper '15

As freshmen, current seniors and juniors began school at an almost unrecognizable Centenary. Since those days, new policies and initiatives have taken place of, or masked, what used to make Centenary great, including a strong student voice. When we began at Centenary, students were influential in making decisions on campus. Though students do hold representative positions on many committees, in the past couple of years, the student voice has been increasingly silenced or altogether ignored by the administration and/or Board of Trustees (e.g., gender-neutral restrooms, the commitments). The loss of the student's vote on the Board of Trustees is just another (albeit much more drastic) step in a series of events limiting student power and increasing administrative power.

"The loss of transparency makes me lose trust in the administration"

In his email explanation of the Board's decision, President Rowe included the resolution graciously allowing the SGA President to remain on the Board as a representative, citing it as assurance that students still remained influential on the Board. However, it has been made clear that the student (and faculty) voice is not equal to that of Board members and the President. Equally appalling is the fact that students have lost not only their vote on the general Board, but their representation of committees of the Board as well. A sizeable portion of the Board of Trustees only step foot on campus when it is time for a meeting, attend that meeting, and then leave without a backwards glance. Students are the only members of this campus who can accurately describe the entire student experience. No amount of documents or briefings can replace the intel that students can provide.

Senior Regina Price says, "The loss of transparency makes me lose trust in the administration and Board of Trustees. It takes away some of my #CentenaryPride."

This change is a serious decision that cannot be ignored. The justification of this coup was that it better aligned our Board with the nation's best practices. Perhaps the "extensive study" that was conducted by the Board would be more convincing, but how the loss of student, faculty, and alumni votes became one of the nation's best practices and why generic nationwide practices are necessarily applicable or appropriate for Centenary is intriguing, to say the least. Centenary is a unique place, and our small size can be a tremendous strength, but only if policies are designed specifically keeping in mind what makes Centenary special. One of Centenary's strongest attractions is a heavily involved and influential student body. The school's small size facilitates a shared conversation about Centenary's future in which students have always had a voice. These nationwide practices may work well for average-sized or larger schools with student populations in the thousands, but what is to say that those practices are appropriate for a population of less than 600? And why adopt the practices of other universities while simultaneously trying to create a Centenary experience distinct from

other colleges? Would it not be more prudent to better develop and refine policies that highlight our strengths and differences, rather than adopt many that further assimilate the school into the large mass of average colleges and universities?

Some upperclassmen feel "betrayed and taken aback" in response to the Board's changes; others, myself included, are not surprised. Many seniors are just adding this to the list of reasons they are oh-so-eager to graduate and to the list of reasons they would not recommend the school. Amongst all upperclassmen I've spoken to, disapproval and anger are ubiquitous.

It is important that this topic not die and be swept under the carpet. Students, along with the other members who have lost their vote on the Board, must stand together and fight against this decision.

STUDENTS SPEAK

By John La Costa ‘18

Many freshmen were more than eager to respond to the disenfranchisement and other suppressions of representation that resulted from the Board’s initiative that eliminated suffrage of Ex-Officio members. Freshman SGA Senator, Anthony McDonald, believes that collaboration between The Board and the President alone is not an accurate representation of student interests. “I think that, without alumni, faculty, and student input, the board is disconnected from the needs of the campus.”

Courtesy of Centenary’s External Relations

While Anthony admits that disenfranchisement may make decision-making more efficient, “changes from now on will have the potential to harm campus life and may damage attendance of returning and prospective students [and] in a small school like Centenary, every voice matters”.

Personally, I’d love to know the logic behind this experience. You would think that the school administration would value the voices of their former and current students. The distance between the Board and the students is only exasperated by the expulsion of students from committee meetings, not to mention the Board’s control over what meetings faculty can and cannot attend. It would look as if the Board is leaning more toward virtual, rather than actual, representation of Centenary’s students.

“He should leave politics behind and concentrate on what is best for the student body

Another freshman insisted that “if President Rowe truly wanted to make a [positive] change, he should leave politics behind and concentrate on what is best for the student body,” further illustrating the controversy amongst the freshman class that the recent changes have bred.

First year student, Gage Dabin, believes there is still hope for these actions to be rectified, despite current attitudes. “I don’t need to know the history between my peers and [the Board]” he says. “I see the hurt on everyone’s faces. Rather than salt our own fields, let us seek union, and sow the field together.”

Whether or not any such an idealistic collaboration will take place is a matter of campus speculation.

BoT BYLAW CHANGES: FACULTY VOICE

By Reily Cook '16

Dr. Glaros has taught at Centenary College for eleven years as part of the Communication Program, and Dr. Thomas has been with the Math department for nearly thirty years. Both were on the Board of Trustees as ex-officio members, and both were removed from the Board as part of the recent reduction. SGA President Miles Robinson, President of the Centenary Alumni Council Rob Rubel, and the District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church Reverend Kenneth Irby were also removed.

The Board presented the action to remove the five ex-officio members in June, and they called the vote the very same day. And though not illegal or out of line, the quick decision was irregular of typical parliamentary procedure; typical procedure usually calls for more time to contemplate the possibilities before making such a large change to the Charter and Bylaws.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

Dr. Tom Longin, a consultant from the Association of Governing Boards, presented the changes and gave two main rationales for the changes. The first rationale was that the current trend among college boards across America was to reduce ex-officio members. "Our governing documents were outdated and outmoded," wrote Dr. Rowe in a mass email to students. Reducing Board size streamlines decision-making, speeds up the process and makes the Board a more active body. The reduction of the Board, and particularly of ex-officio members, alters the governance into a more top-down approach akin to business models. However, Centenary College has functioned—and ought to continue so, according to Dr. Thomas—as a group dynamic, reflecting the ideas of faculty, students, alumni, and Trustees.

The second rationale behind the reduction of ex-officio members logically follows the first: ex-Trustees like Dr. Glaros, Dr. Thomas, and Miles Robinson represented larger bodies, so their ability to vote purely as Trustees was compromised by their need to represent a group. "It seems to me," Dr. Glaros stated, "the second rationale presumes that what's in the best interest of the groups—the students or the faculty—might somehow at some point be in conflict with the best interest of the college." She gave the example of a possible difficult financial decision; a smaller Board would perhaps help guide the decision along according to the interests of the college itself. Dr. Glaros also noted that while this rationale certainly makes sense, she is not entirely convinced by it, as the possibility of such a serious conflict being substantively affected by a small number of representative trustees is not very likely. And yet, with the trend of increasing college tuition across the country, I would add that financial concerns are certainly on the minds of administration and students.

But worries of finances and administrative changes obfuscate the main cause behind all of our worries—we care for the college, its stability, its future. Perhaps it's best to accept that changes have been made, and it may be best that we start looking at where our goals align rather than split. "Now that these changes have been made, we need to create new ways to work together. We need to start rowing in the same direction," Dr. Glaros said.

Nevertheless, concerns will continue to exist about the future of the college due to recent decisions. Anonymous junior faculty told us they have little confidence in Rowe's leadership and fear for the survival of the school. Some faculty worry about the parallel with changes made at William Peace University, where recently, though enrollment has thrived, faculty has been sharply reduced and has complained of a poor academic environment. The former president of the college, Debra M. Townsley, had

Board of Trustees support through the changes even while faculty grew critical. For anonymous faculty, this parallel increases concern over the integrity of the school.

Both Dr. Glaros and Dr. Thomas think that the loss of faculty votes on the Board is a critical loss. "It's not that we'll ever swing a vote," Dr. Glaros said. But what is important, she noted, is that they can no longer partake in parliamentary procedure, even if they are occasionally invited to committee meetings. Because of this, and without the ex-officio members' input, the possibility of shaping good ideas presented by the Board into better ideas is severely hindered. "Perhaps from our informed perspectives as representatives, we might be able to take an idea coming from a board committee and make some informed adjustments," Dr. Glaros said. "That's an important loss."

To some, "Forward, Forward, Centenary!" has sounded less like an enthusiastic promise of future vitality and more like an anxiety-inducing obligation. It seems future progress is dependent on communication. Centenary isn't like other colleges because it is our college—ours as students, faculty, alumni, and Trustees. "I believe in Maroon," Dr. Thomas said. "Like many other faculty and board members." This perhaps sums up all of our beliefs, though we may not always agree on the best way of putting those beliefs into action. Yet we must trudge on, unified in our belief and motto: "Forward, Forward, Centenary."

BoT BYLAW CHANGES: SGA RESPONDS

By Ben Green '17

The response to President Miles Robinson's article in the previous issue of The Conglomerate proves just how passionate and dedicated Centenary students are. The response to this trying time in Centenary's history has been overwhelming. The leaders of this brigade are our very own Student Government.

SGA has been an extremely influential organization throughout our history and is continuing its legacy. This was evident during the recent "Talk with Your Mouth Full" event. "Talk with Your Mouth Full" is a time when students and administration can meet and chat over lunch. Several members of our administration attended including: Dr. Rowe, Chris Lavan, and Mark Miller, just to name a few. With last month's editorial fresh in the minds of the attendees, the conversations were intense.

The unsurprising theme of all the discussions was the lack of communication between the administration and the students. This is a huge issue for SGA, since they were previously the vote of the students on the Board.

Rest assured, students, your student government is making a way! I recently spoke to one of the senators about plans to

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

hopefully reinstate the connection to the board. Robinson is planning to meet with the President Rowe and Chairman of the Board, Mr. George Nelson, Jr. separately. Also, Provost Ward will attend a regular Student Government meeting on November 11 at 8:00--so be sure to attend. This is a huge step the right direction. The Provost and Robinson will be able to take the student's concerns and then voice them to them to other administrators and board members. Although it is not a permanent solution, it is a step in the right direction.

Want to voice your opinion? All SGA meetings (Tuesdays at 8:00 P.M. in the Whited Room) are open to the student body. You can also speak to your class representative. With these steps and student involvement, we can reclaim our school!

12 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BoT CHANGES

1. The "Resolution in support of the participation of faculty, staff, students, and alumni in the Board deliberations" was passed on June 16, 2014.

2. The number of ex-officio members on the Board was decreased by 5 (from 7 to 2).

3. The Board now allows the SGA President, Alumni Association President, the District Superintendent of the Church, and 2 Faculty delegates.

4. No delegates are permitted to vote. They CAN, however, speak up, but they can be asked to leave if topics are deemed to be "sensitive."

5. The number of committees was reduced from 10 to 6 in order to "keep the deliberations focused on matters of policy and strategy rather than management and operations", according to President Rowe in his email to the College entitled: "A Word from the President on the College Charter and By-laws."

6. Students are not invited to Committee Meetings.

7. The Student Life and Academic Affairs Committees have been consolidated into the Educational Quality Committee.

-Before consolidation, multiple student organizations sat on the Student Life Committee such as IFC, Pan-Hellenic, Choir, SGA, CAB, and SAAC Presidents. Not anymore.

8. The President's vote was eliminated from key committees in which potential conflicts of interest arise more frequently: executive, governance, and audit.

9. The power of the executive committee was limited, pushing more major decisions to the full Board.

10. The number of elected members on the board was decreased by 20 — from 48 to 28.

11. The trustees imposed on themselves term limits for members.

12. The board established term limits for officers, including the Chairman.

A QUICK WORD WITH DR. ROWE

By Aly Velasquez '17

Amongst new changes in the Board of Trustee By-Laws, Centenary in Paris, and the Caf food being pretty good this semester, a new phrase has been thrown at us: Immersion Terms. I sat down with President Rowe to clarify for my fellow students these new happenings.

Can you explain "More in 4"? What else is "More in 4"?

DR: More in 4 forges high impact, quality learning experiences. We've created room for more intense learning opportunities because our students now have more time to think through their scheduling, can double major easily in four years, and there is more flexibility to finish their degrees faster. This leaves freed up space to do abroad programs.

What does the May and August Immersion entail exactly?

DR: More in 4 includes four courses each traditional semester, and two gained from each Immersion Term every year. That's 40 hours a year at a normal pace! The result is that students are able to dive deeper into their degrees. Centenary in Paris was our first August Immersion Term in which students earned 4 credit hours before the upperclassmen even got to campus!

Who will be affected by the May and August Immersion Programs?

DR: Our commitment was to the students in the Fall of 2014. You graduate under the catalogue you come in to, OR any other catalogue that you find to be more conducive to your education. There is an opportunity for all students to be a part of the Immersion Programs, but they are not required. We plan on developing new courses for these terms, and all students are more than welcome to participate in them.

We students do not want to pay for anything we are not participating in. Will the cost of tuition be increased by this program for everyone?

DR: No, as of now, we have a two-tiered tuition structure. How do you think students would react to different formulations if they chose to participate in the Immersion Terms?

AV: We'll be happy so long as we get what we pay for. I think a lot of students would be interested in taking advantage of this new program!

Where should we go to voice our concerns since our student vote has been dissolved in Board of Trustees meetings?

DR: Our SGA President is still allowed to voice his concerns at Board of Trustee meetings. Miles sits on the Program and Policy Committee and the President's cabinet committees. We have in place relationship teams with the SGA President, the Maroon Jackets, RHA President, and CAB President.

How can we constructively work for what we want?

DR: There is still a great deal of opportunity to be a part of the decision making process. There is always a hyper attention to student prospective when we say something because one student represents all students. Your SGA President is your strongest communication advocate.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

LOOKING BACK: KSCL 91.3, CENTENARY'S ALTERNATIVE RADIO

By Jacob Robison '15

"We play what isn't being played elsewhere."

Even in the beginning, the student body had problems with the obscurity that comes with an alternative radio, and some students today barely know it exists. The station, just like today, had to go through its fair share of red tape, but it ventured on with the goal of giving underrepresented voices a place to speak.

The student radio came to Centenary in 1976, and before this the school had done various radio programs through other stations in the area.

Including KSCL, at least eleven other student radio stations are broadcasting in Louisiana. One of the oldest and largest of these is KLSU, Baton Rouge, which is still broadcasting today. While KSCL is one of the smaller stations being at one of the smallest colleges, it has still been able to have a lasting affect on the community around it.

"KSCL has always been a loud voice in a small pond," Kelly Dunnigan, Centenary alumni, writes in her piece on KSCL's history.

Of course there were many preliminary steps toward the birth of KSCL, but one of the most major steps came with an article written by one Jay Reynolds titled, "KSCL Pipe Dreams" which was published in The Conglomerate in October of 1975.

It was throughout the 1975 school year that students waited patiently, hearing handfuls of news both good and bad about the legitimacy of the station and the license status from the FCC. This is a feeling the current staff knows all too well, but without a doubt, it happened. The station became legitimate, and quickly rose to even more challenges.

KSCL struggled at the beginning along with The Conglomerate, as neither received funding from the school. At the time only the Yoncopin was considered to be a form of communication for and to students, and received the only media funding that multiple organizations get today.

The station went through many changes to become what it is today, and it is still adapting every year. With new students come new ideas, and as long as there are passionate workers, there will be excitement among the radio waves in the air.

Over this past May Module season, the transmitter on top of the SUB was struck by lightning (Yes, really). It was fried, and the station could only broadcast a mile radius, if even that.

The previous Station Manager, Nick Carroll, and the technical director fought through the vicious storm to try and solve the issue before it worsened. Elena Hibbs, current Station Manager, reports that a new transmitter has just been purchased, because all attempts to repair our equipment have failed. Keep your ears open, and your eyes on the lookout for KSCL 91.3 Centenary College Radio.

THIS MONTH AT MEADOWS

By Adam Stephens '15

This November, the Meadows Museum will be featuring an exhibit entitled "Poet of the Ordinary: Photographs by Keith Carter." The exhibit opens on November 8; there will be a reception from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm (alcohol will be served, so bring your IDs), and Keith Carter will host a talk at 6:00 pm.

Carter is a photographer who is internationally known for his representations Southern culture; he has had over 100 exhibitions in thirteen countries and is a recipient of the Texas Medal of Arts. He will be working with various classes throughout the week of the exhibit and conducting public workshops for interested students.

Two more exhibits will also be opening at the Museum on November 8: "Imaginary Botanicals: Sculptures in Glass" (by Kathleen Elliot) and "Images of Excellence: The O. Winston Link Centennial." Elliot's exhibit consists of organic, flame-worked sculptures (meaning the glass is treated directly by a torch) that reimagine leaves, fruit, pods and flowers in a different form. "Images of Excellence" is an exhibit of black and white photographs taken by O. Winston Link mainly during the 1950s; the photographs cover a wide variety of subjects, such as alligator hunting, shrimp boat blessings, the Cotton Exchange, and the arrival of new "co-eds" at LSU.

"My Co-Director Bruce Allen and I want Centenary students to be the face of this nationally-accredited museum," said Dr. Lisa Nicoletti, Centenary Professor of Art History and Visual Studies and Meadows Museum Interim Co-Director. "If students ever want to volunteer, do work study in the museum to strengthen their resumes, do an upper-level internship for college credit, or have access to great art and artists while fulfilling their Community or Career TREK credit, they should get in touch with me.

Photo: Jacob Robison

CENTENARY AT THE REVEL

By Hannah Still '17

This year at the Red River Revel, Centenary students represented proudly.

The Red River Revel is a festival held in downtown Shreveport every year in mid-October where the artists, musicians, and foodies of Caddo Parish and beyond come together to celebrate the unique culture of North Louisiana. Centenary students and staff enjoyed participating in the Revel's events either through volunteering for different organizations involved at the festival or by joining in on the festivities themselves as a visitor.

Centenary freshman Chelsea Glaspie enjoyed her time volunteering for the Revel with Shreveport Green. "I worked with several other volunteers to exchange money for coupons," she told the Congo of her time volunteering. "I met some really awesome people, and we got free fair tickets!"

The Centenary ZTAs sold Natchitoches meat pies for their 30th consecutive year in order to support their philanthropy: breast cancer awareness. Some of the girls were out there for hours at a time.

Students who did not get to volunteer had a chance to join in on the festivities thanks to the Centenary Activities Board. During Fall Fest (the week long autumnal celebration put on by CAB), Centenary students had a chance to get free admission to the festival. Students met at six o'clock on that Thursday to get a real taste of North Louisiana; they enjoyed delicious crawfish étouffée and chocolate strawberries, got a firsthand chance to witness the live music playing that night at the festival, and appreciated all of the arts and crafts there to purchase and enjoy.

The Red River Revel is surely something that the city of Shreveport takes pride in, and this year Centenary got the chance to share that pride.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: JORDAN FELL

By John La Costa '18

Jordan Fell: this lovely lady, has been the brains behind many a MLP production in her college career. This October, she and freshman Julia Eckelkamp, were the cornerstone of MLP's fall production of Shakespeare's As You Like It. Together, they constructed over twenty costumes for the first show of the year.

Jordan, a senior, has enjoyed her time in Centenary's theatre program, seeing it as an appropriate venue to express all her interests; "I've always enjoyed drawing. I figured since I could satisfy both drawing and theatre with costume, that's what I'd do." In addition to drawing and costume design, Jordan has also become quite the actress, taking on a lead in the fall show, in addition to her regular design work. She jokes that her lack of hand eye coordination is what resulted in theatre becoming her outlet to release her storm of childhood energy, as opposed to sports. "My grandmother taught me to hand sew when I was eight and got me my first machine in 6th grade." She said, in regards to when her interest for costuming began to really take form. "In high school I went to this art camp and took fashion illustration classes. I started building things my senior year of high school when my teachers gave me fabric and just let me go to town." She enjoys the variety and individuality of every play.

DEAR READER,

As we move past this midterm election season, let us always keep in mind the power of an individual's voice. We are fortunate to live in a society that functions on differing perspectives and opinions; and even more fortunate to be at a Tier One liberal arts college that teaches us how to use our voice as a tool. How we voice our views — whether it be voting, writing, or standing up in a meeting — says a lot about our character and ultimately defines the legacy that we leave behind. In these moments of our college's history, it's time to decide: What will your legacy be? What difference will you make during your college career? This month? This week? Today?

We are all a part of the Centenary Family. For any visitor looking in, it's easy to see that we truly have each other's backs. It's hard to face change and uncertainty, but in this season of change, we must continue to stand together as a family. As a leader on this campus, I am truly proud to be a part of what Centenary is. Never in my life have I encountered a group of people more genuine, intelligent, and passionate than my Centenary Family. We have the ability to affect change — now let's get to work, Gents!

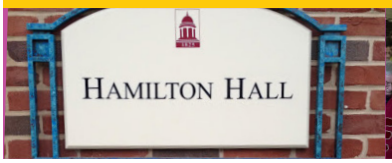
Whatever your legacy may be, I hope it is one that you can be proud of at the end of the day.

Aly Velasquez,
Editor in Chief

Please send us your comments and concerns! Email the staff at cconglomerate@gmail.com

FEATURES | SPORTS

DECEMBER 2014



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MICKLE CONSTRUCTION ALMOST DONE

By Adam Stephens '15

Students and professors in Mickle will have to deal with the sounds of construction for a little longer.

According to Director of Facilities Chris Sampite, there have not been any delays in the construction effort; the contractor is on schedule to finish by January 7, 2015.

"As the window project comes to an end, we are looking forward to the holiday breaks to complete other tasks such as replacing flooring in the entries of the restrooms, adding fire safety systems in chemical storage rooms, installing exterior handrails, and other minor work," said Mr. Sampite. "Major work will be completed during Thanksgiving break, and construction activity will slow down significantly by December 1."

Mickle Hall when it was first constructed

The Mickle restoration project started on June 30, 2014, following the approval of a federal grant administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The overall goal of the project is to make the Mickle building more structurally sound, energy-efficient, and aesthetically pleasing. Specific structural improvements include sealing the exterior brick, replacing windows, and repairing the roof; restroom, sidewalk and building access are also being improved, as well as updates to the HVAC system (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning) and the fire system. Storage and additional support for scientific equipment and chemicals is also being added.

"Mickle will last another 65 years when they are done," said Dr. Ed Leuck.

However, due to the extent of the restoration, the project could not be completed during the summer. As a result, over the last few months, professors and students have had to endure holding classes in a construction zone.

"The noise, dust, traffic in the halls, and blocking of entrances into the building and floors have all affected classes," said Dr. Beth Leuck. "We are particularly concerned about the exposure of some equipment, such as microscopes, to the pervasive dust. Some of us, both students and faculty, are suffering from respiratory discomfort when we are working in Mickle. Classes have had to move from one classroom or laboratory to another to allow workmen access to laboratories and classrooms."

Despite the numerous inconveniences, the prevailing attitude towards the overall construction effort has been one of acceptance; it is not an ideal situation, but not unbearable either.

YOUNG VOTERS FAIL TO SHOW

Hannah Still '17

On November 4, Midterm Elections resulted in a runoff between Senator Mary Landrieu and Bill Cassidy. The runoff election resulted in Bill Cassidy taking Landrieu's seat in the Senate. On the Shreveport scale, Ollie Tyler won the election for Mayor against Victoria Provenza.

However, a striking number of young voters were missing from the polls in last November. Throughout the nation, only 12% of people under 30 voted in the midterm elections, a decrease from the 19% turnout rate during 2010's midterm elections. This may give us some indication as to why conservatives overtook the senate. Young voters are known to be predominantly liberal, while most conservative voters seem to lean towards the older side (you know what they say, if you're not a Liberal by 20, you have no heart, and if you're not a Conservative by 40, you have no brain -- or something brainwashing like that). A whopping 37% of voters were over the age of 60 this time around, which makes sense considering the turnout. The majority of people under 30 did not make it out to the polls.

So why don't young people vote? Well, partly because it was, in fact, the Midterm Elections and not the Presidential Elections. There is much less sensationalism around voting for local government, since these campaigns do not affect each state the same, and these names are less famous than say, a Bush or a Clinton. Democrats generally do worse in these elections because of this.

But the blame cannot be placed mainly on this idea that midterm elections seem unimportant. There has to be another reason young people aren't voting. We know it isn't that millennials don't care. A large amount of young people want our country to continue to progress. We support the rights of LGBT* folks, women's rights, and speaking out when they feel as though something is systematically wrong. Our Pop Cultural world has become enveloped with messages of feminism and equality, and young voices everywhere are demanding that the world make a better fit for those of us who are being oppressed by the system.

Most young voters-to-be just claim that voting is inconvenient, conflicting with busy class and work schedules, and they feel as though their votes would not count anyway. But (clearly) votes count. We know young people want to move forward; they just are not taking the extra step. Without our votes, women, people of color, and people of the LGBT* spectrum will continue to live under this system which works against them.

Even if you don't agree with everything I've written here, it's still important to go out and cast your vote. Democracy is in the hands of the people.

We can talk the talk all day, Centenary. But next time around, help us move forward by walking the walk and voting.

FEED THE MONSTER

By Chelsea Glaspie ‘18

FEED THE MONSTER
THE MONSTER LOVES TO EAT: FRUITS, VEGGIES, BREAD, NAPKINS, PIZZA, AND PASTA
PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ANY MEAT OR PLASTIC IN THE COMPOST BIN
PANDORA

This past month, students and faculty have reported seeing a little, green monster waiting around the Caf and looking for leftovers. This monster represents the Greenhouse composting bin!

For their latest project, Greenhouse has unleashed a beast! He has been spotted at the Caf, the Hardin Residence Hall, and the Centenary Garden. He enjoys pizza, vegetables, bread, napkins, and pasta. He does not, however, care for meat or plastic. Greenhouse is using the compost to revitalize Centenary Community Garden (located behind Centenary Square). The Greenhouse community is thrilled to begin this project.

Emilie Harmeyer says, “The goal of the composting project is to reduce the amount of food waste coming from the Caf. We are trying to accomplish the sustainability movement: the Triple-Bottom Line. Reducing food waste has both ecological and economic benefits; food waste is the biggest input in environmentally harmful landfills, where food waste takes up once valuable land and decomposes at a much slower rate than it would in a compost bin. When food is composted instead of thrown away, the compost can later be used as organic fertilizer to grow more food. Additionally, reducing the amount of waste coming from the Caf can reduce the costs to the school for disposal. The remaining part of the Triple Bottom Line is, of course, the social aspect. When we Centenary students work together to compost and work in the Centenary Community Garden, we can grow closer as a community while learning more about environmental protection.”

So, when you go to throw away unwanted food, remember: the monster is hungry!

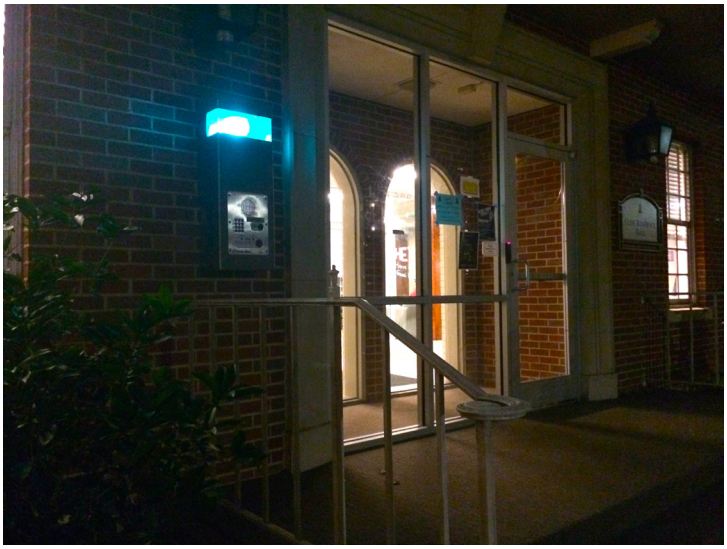
EMERGENCY SUBVERTED?

Chelsea Glaspie ‘18

The malfunctions of the emergency call boxes on campus have been fixed thanks to The Leadership and Organization Class, taught by Dr. Chris Martin, Dean of the Frost School of Business. The class always strives for campus-wide positive and sustainable changes for all students. Take the climbing wall, for example; this project, as well as the fountain near Hamilton and the barbeque pits in front of Hardin, are all past projects of the class.

This year, the class decided to take a new angle — safety. The students brought to attention that the emergency alert centers located near many of the busiest locations on campus were possibly malfunctioning. Armed with this information and a plan, students have ensured that all locations are now in complete working order.

But they are not stopping there. The students would like to continue to see student safety at the forefront of campus life, and they are investigating further changes. This class truly exemplifies the Centenary difference of combining leadership with academic success.



GREEK beat

Centenary's stellar sororities and fraternities share their news and achievements of the semester

ΧΩ CHI OMEGA

The Iota Gamma Chapter of Chi Omega has had a very fun and successful month! The chapter is getting closer to sponsoring their Make-A-Wish child. They are preparing now with events like Campfire and the Centenary Picnic.

In addition, the Chi-O's have been working with several community partners including the Lovewell Center and the Fuller Center to aid with their philanthropy.

TAU KAPPA EPSILON TKE

The brothers of the Iota-Theta Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon have had a banner semester! Fall 2014 has been a time of greatness for the chapter and renewed tradition. This semester, Iota-Theta welcomed nine new brothers!

The annual Graveyard Halloween party was a success, as was TKEsgiving. Frater Loren Lepore graduated from EMT school after being away for over six months. Another brother, Frater Trey Davis was November's Greek Male of the Month.

KA KAPPA ALPHA

Kappa Alpha Order has spent the last year completely restructuring the chapter after a period of probation. We've spent the time rethinking our new member education program, rewriting and amending our bylaws, and recommitting ourselves to the traits of honor, chivalry, and gentility that we strive to live by every day. The brotherhood and alumni support has never been stronger and our network of alumni never larger or diverse. We look forward to introducing new gentleman to the hallmarks of men who have chosen our unique lifestyle.

ZETA TAU ALPHA

Exciting things have been happening with Zeta! October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. As their philanthropy, the members organized multiple events to bring awareness to their cause. One of their major events was Big Man on Campus held on October 31.

As November rolls in, ZTA is also sponsoring Centenary for St. Jude. They are hosting a spaghetti dinner at the Symphony House to raise money for this worthy cause. In addition, on Saturday, November 8, the members of the pledge class of 2014 were initiated into Beta Iota chapter!

KAPPA SIGMA

The Kappa Sigmas have made great strides this semester in improving their chapter. Earlier this month, they initiated 13 quality young men.

The Epsilon chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity has especially focused on scholarship and philanthropy this semester. They worked at Common Ground with the ZTA's and Chi Omega's doing a Trunk-Or-Treat and volunteered at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

The Brothers are also especially proud of Leroy McCray for winning ZTA's Big Man on Campus. It doesn't stop there. They are looking forward to continuing this progress and carrying it into the next semester.

THETA CHI

Theta Chi was built upon the idea that men, no matter the impossibility of their dreams and goals, can accomplish anything. But, then we realized that even man could not accomplish his dreams if he did not have a friend. Theta Chi is about utilizing a support system to meet our members where they are already at in their development and to help mature, strengthen and equip them based on their needs. Our members strive to reject conventionality and challenge societal standards to demonstrate that being a Greek male is more than a stereotype. Alma Mater First, and Theta Chi for Alma Mater.

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Note from the Editor: While working on this issue, our staff was informed about a policy in place in which faculty members, tenured or not, could be subject to punishment if they release any unauthorized information to the press. The Conglomerate does not wish to compromise the jobs of our beloved faculty members. Therefore, we have not included any names in the following editorial.

By Joe Signorelli '15

Courtesy of michaelsportfolio..com

Earlier this semester, nearly a month ago now, I was at Marjorie Lyons Playhouse for Saturday morning tech call, a requirement for theatre majors. We were confronted with some difficult news: the 30% budget cut to the Academic Department meant that we might need to cut our last show of the season and replace it with something smaller. The Department has been preparing for this production for months. For the next several days, our department mulled over possible replacements with confusion and fear. Many students across several departments have some version of this story. Thankfully for the Theatre Department, the Music Department agreed to cover the difference so that no students would lose any opportunities for experience. There is no proper way to express the level of gratitude that we at MLP feel towards those in the Music Department, but what about the rest of the students? The 25% of the student population that identify as Biology majors? Sociology? I could only imagine the anxiety of departments that could not count on another department to help them in these instances.

I reached out to a few professors to speak about the effects of these cuts for their respective departments. The responses were, to say the least, varied. On one hand, some departments have been able to absorb the costs temporarily thanks to department specific financial endowments. Others believed that the cuts would not have major short-term effects on their departments. If the cuts remain past next semester, some big changes would need to be made, though. If departments are forced to endure these conditions for an extended period, the compromises would lower the quality of education in those departments.

While the stories of departments that would not suffer short term losses sound somewhat reassuring (at least for now), one only needs to turn to the cuts' effect on the natural sciences to see the true gravity of the situation. In the words of one professor, the changes could be "drastic." Those students who study in Mickle are in an unfortunate position; science is very expensive. Lab equipment will cost the same if one student or one-hundred students use it. For now, professors can execute cheap and simple solutions for some lab equipment, which they referred to as "Walmart biology", but for classes such as Comparative Anatomy, where samples such as sharks and cats are usually used for labs, the budget is essential. These cuts only become more disappointing when one considers that the Biology department tries not to have a surplus in their budget at the end of a semester. In recent semesters, ex-

COPE WITH BUDGET CUTS

extra funds have been used to replace the water purifier and a lab computer. One cannot downplay the enormity of these decision; Biology majors make up 25% of the student population.

I also took this opportunity to explore the effect that the new budget has on our professors' retirement funds. Professors that have been here longer spoke of the retirement package from when they were hired: for every 5% contributed by a professor to their retirement fund from their paycheck, the school would invest an amount equaling 10% of that paycheck. Centenary's rates are not much different from several other institutions; however, the rates have since changed. The school now only matches a professor's 5% with another 5%. This cuts the retirement package by a third for the duration of this policy.

How does this affect a professor's plan for retirement? As one professor pointed out, it is much harder to retire under this policy and even more difficult to plan for retirement as long as the package keeps changing. Some of Centenary's older professors are currently working well past the point in which they planned to be retired. Some professors even raised concerns that Centenary's health insurance that would have once been available after retirement may not be an option anymore. However, none of the science professors wishing to retire could test this option because nobody has retired in any of the science departments during the President Rowe administration.

"If departments are forced to endure these conditions ... the compromises would lower the quality of education"

At this point, the situation begins to look somewhat grim, at least for the time being. So I asked the question: what do we do in this situation? For some, the answer is difficult. Many faculty members feel that the Board of Trustees does not side with their interests. For them, the solution comes down to faculty/administration communication. If the administration offered more transparency and discussion on these financial decisions, then perhaps compromises could be made in the favor of students and faculty instead of just Hamilton Hall. This has been said several times in many different ways; but what else can we do?

In some of my discussions, an additional solution revealed itself. All schools, I have been assured, find themselves in a period of tense adjustment when new curriculums or budgets are proposed; as people, we find ourselves resistant when confronted by new ideas. It is a natural reaction. However, we cannot lose hope in the face of changing circumstances; one professor mentioned that in the past, these issues resolved themselves when faculty and students took ownership of the new circumstances and faced the challenge together. This is already happening. As I pointed out earlier, if not for the solidarity between the Music and Theatre departments, solutions may not have been possible.

"Many faculty members feel that the Board of Trustees does not side with their interests"

When asked about changing retirement circumstances and the possibility of professors leaving, one professor responded as though it were obvious: the professors love this school too much to leave. This professor is not alone in thinking so. They are taking these difficult circumstances in stride so that the rest of us might have a better experience. When it comes to changing budgets, losing our voices on the Board of Trustees, and facing the administration, the faculty is on our side. You cannot buy that kind of experience.

The bottom line is this: faculty concerns will always be student concerns because of the tight-knit relationship that the Centenary family values.

SGA AND THE BOARD:

By Aly Velasquez '17

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

In our last issue, The Conglomerate promised to keep you updated on SGA's progress with the Board of Trustees situation. We, the students, want our voice back. SGA President Miles Robinson is still fighting for us. Recently, he went to lunch with Board Chairman George Nelson Jr. and President Rowe to try to reach a compromise. I sat down with him to discuss the meeting.

How did President Rowe and Chairman Nelson describe the Board's new relationship outlook on students?

In terms of "strategic" instead of "operational." They described "strategic" being this more "zoomed-out" look at where the College is going, i.e. financial fitness and goal setting for 5 and 10 years. The Board is focusing on plans of the College instead of operational — what they called "nitty gritty" or "everyday things." Instead of dealing with the "nitty gritty," they want to be looking at the bigger picture, like endowment spending.

Why don't they want students or faculty involved in meetings?

Rowe and Nelson phrased it as "they think that hearing input from students and faculty will distract them from the broader goal." They said that, "we're trying to tighten our belts financially, and if we hear what's happening on campus, it would distract us from being good fiscal stewards of the College."

Hearing the tough side of financial conservation will distract them and take away from their vision. They want to focus on the "broader vision" instead of "single detail vision."

What solutions did you pose to them?

We talked about including students on the Educational Quality Committee. We talked about a Talk With Your Mouth Full event with the Board — however, this event was immediately shot down. I think that we need a two-way conversation going. Students need to understand how much their tuitions are affected, and Board Members need to hear about student life from students. We need to heal this rift of mistrust. Rowe and the Chairman didn't like that idea. They only foresaw students complaining, and hearing from students doesn't fit into their "zoomed-out" agenda.

However, President Rowe did make a commitment to me to figure out an informal event with the Board. He also admitted that Board Members are independent. We can still ask them to an event, and they can individually say yes. Sadly, without Rowe's blessing, I doubt that we'll get any members. Board Members don't like to be lone gunmen.

I kept hitting this paradigm shift that the Board has to be "strategic." I just kept hitting this wall. Everything I proposed was received with opposition.

HEALING THE RIFT

The thing is: the individuals of the Board are committed to these changes. This isn't Rowe and the Chairman alone. The Board understands the consequences. It's tough because I know that the Board has given millions of their personal money — I know that they care about us. So, I don't understand why they don't want to know what student life is all about. That's the scary part. It's that SGA has hit this wall. We probably won't get the vote back. However, that doesn't mean the conversation is over. I'm still looking for solutions. Gladly, Rowe has agreed to meet monthly with me.

How did they respond when you asked about a student on the Educational Quality Committee?

I was given a commitment from Rowe to look at inviting people.

The Provost said she would let me know if the agenda involves student life, and would invite me to come. We are still fighting for a set position, but I got a commitment for students to be invited if student issues came up. That's in their control.

What do you think this means for the Centenary family?

As long as Centenary has faculty and students, we will have the same issues because we're small and concerned about the well being of each other. We have a strong relationship that we will always cherish. However, we have to face the fact that we may not get our votes back. And so, if that terrible possibility happens, we have to think, "Okay, let's question why and mourn how terrible this is for communication." But we also have to think, "We lost the vote, what else can we do?"

What can we argue and how can we work with the administration to fill in gaps of communication?

The Board is the most powerful position at Centenary. At the same time, by the time things reach the Board's level, everything is already very formal. SGA and student committees are going to have to work on this formal form.

The administration needs to seek out opinion when they are in the rough draft form. Then we can be proactive instead of being reactive. We are forced to become reactive when there isn't transparency. They must to be proactive in seeking student opinion. It can help combat constant back lashes if faculty and students feel like they've been considered.

The Board is on a path of changing how they operate. They are all committed to this change. They've had long debate over this, and they understand what they're doing.

THE "BIG THREE":

By Zachary Stielper '15

The Centenary Activities Board, the Residence Hall Association, and the Student Government Association are collectively referred to as "The Big 3". This title gives the impression that CAB, RHA, and SGA are relatively united and equal in stature. Despite the name, the activities and funding of the three call the equality of the organizations into question. As the college continues to change in these dynamic times, it is necessary for these organizations to stand together to effectively serve and represent the student body.

"Some students believe that CAB's budget is disproportionately high"

The three organizations have had well-defined niches on Centenary's campus for many years: CAB is responsible for hosting fun, engaging, stress-free student activities that provide entertainment and encourage student morale; SGA allocates money to other student organizations and activities, creates new policies, and advocates on the administrative level on behalf of students; RHA's domain is within the residence halls, putting on programs that coordinate with the World Houses and encourage community building between residence and creating residential policies and initiatives. All three operations are funded from different sources.

There is a place and need for all three organizations here at Centenary. However, as school policies continue to change, it may be necessary to adjust or more clearly distinguish the duty of each organization in order to avoid conflict or bruised egos. But there are also many goals in common between the "Big Three", and on those, there must be a more unified effort going forward. There are ample opportunities for collaboration in the academic year; however, many of these opportunities have been passed over (for instance, preliminary talks regarding RHA hosting a homecoming event were later overlooked). Those that are considered to be a joint effort are rarely truly equal in terms of individual contributions.

All three organizations have representation on the administrative level. The SGA president sits (though no longer votes) on the Board of Trustees, and the RHA and CAB presidents are members of the Family-Leader Relations Team, a planning committee consisting of administration, faculty, and staff. There is not, however, any conversation between the representatives about what is discussed. There should be established pathways for communication between the leadership of the three organizations to discuss ideas and action plans to most effectively represent and serve the student body.

Organizations need money to operate, especially those such as The Big Three. Over the past few years, SGA and CAB have had operational budgets considerably larger than that of RHA. This year SGA began working with a fall allocation of $36,523.90, which is normal when compared to recent years, according to current VP of Finance, Raquel Candal. The SGA receives $150 per student, which comes out of fees rolled into tuition. The Residence Hall Association receives a mere $12 from room and board fees per resident each semester, leading to an average semesterly allocation of around $4000. This semester, RHA is working with an even smaller amount due to miscommunication with the business office. CAB's budget for this year is $45,044.18, with a remaining $2,000 from last year.

A CALL FOR UNITY

According to CAB's budget, each of CAB's four committees receive a budget of $7,500, and there was an additional $7,000 in a general fund. Some students believe that CAB's budget is disproportionately high and that its current use of student fees is wasteful. Some went as far as to say that CAB owes students their fees back.

This large of disparity in distribution of student fees is nonsensical. Of the total combined budgets of the three organizations, RHA receives less than 10%. What CAB spends on one week (i.e., Fall Fest, Spring Fling), RHA spends in a year. A somewhat larger budget for SGA makes sense because so much of its budget is allocated to other campus groups, activities, and conferences, but RHA has high expenses, too. Each year, in addition to campus programming, RHA sends delegates to three regional/national conferences (as is typical for collegiate residence hall associations) to vote on legislation and learn how to better serve residents.

"This large of disparity in distribution of student fees is nonsensical"

Adding to the inequality is the fact that the leadership positions of both CAB and SGA are compensated with a sizeable stipend, while RHA's leaders do not, despite a fairly equal workload. SGA pays the Executive Council a total of $3,200 each semester; CAB spends $3,400. While it would be unethical to take a leadership position solely for the stipend, payments certainly offer an incentive to take and fulfill the duties of the position. One of RHA's struggles has been a high rate of turnover within the organization, resulting in delayed progress and growth. Perhaps rewarding RHA's leadership with monetary compensation would result in better retention of its members, creating a stronger organization. It is true that the budgets of RHA, CAB, and SGA are funded by different sources, but that cannot a be logical solitary justification for the marked difference in these organizational budgets. Now that students have been mandated to live on campus, it cannot even be argued that RHA serves a smaller portion of the student body. If all of the Big Three are to have equal clout, then a more equally shared wealth is necessary.

Centenary is in a transitional period, and the three most influential organizations on campus must be able to adapt to the changes if they are to stay successful and respond appropriately to the student cause. This is a pressing issue in light of the recent Board of Trustees changes that drastically diminished student representation. We need for our student leaders to be united in representing and advocating on behalf of the students. We cannot lose our voice.

SWIM TEAM MAKES A SPLASH

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

By Gage Dabin '18

Saturday, November 8th, the Centenary Gents and Ladies battled the Hendrix Warriors across five lanes of the pool. The meet began as both Centenary and Hendrix swimmers stacked the podiums for the events. However, after the Boys 100 yard butterfly, a new gear kicked in, and the domination by the Ladies and the Gents never ceased until the final 200 yard freestyle relay.

At the end of the day, both the Gents and Ladies walked away with crushing victories. The Gents won by a landslide with 96 points to Hendrix's 50 points. The Ladies crushed with 99 points to Hendrix's 83 points. The victories by both the Ladies and the Gents are a testament to the work ethic of the team as a whole, and to the coaching staff that guided them to their sweeping win.

LACROSSE DOMINATES

By Gage Dabin '18

The Lacrosse Team found its footing with a dominating appearance on Mayo Field on Saturday, November 8th. In this double-header against ULM and Stephen F. Austin, the Gent's battled their rivals gallantly in both games.

The first game against the University of Louisiana-Monroe (ULM) saw the Gents give up a last minute goal that ended the game 6-5 ULM. However, the loss did not discourage the team in their next battle. During the next game, the Gents dominated the Lacrosse Field against Stephen F. Austin with a 2-1 win.

The freshmen, the sophomores, the juniors, and the seniors have all decided that a new age for the Gents has begun. This victory was merely a taste of the dominance that will be commonplace throughout their upcoming season.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

WOMEN'S

Sat, 12/6	at Rhodes College	Memphis, Tenn.	1:00 p.m.
Tue, 12/9	at LSU Alexandria	Alexandria, La.	5:00 p.m.
Wed,12/10	at McNeese State University	Lake Charles, La.	7:00 p.m.
Tue, 12/30	Hendrix College	Shreveport, La.	4:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/2	at Colorado College	Colorado Springs, Colo.	7:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/3	at Colorado College	Colorado Springs, Colo.	5:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/9	at Texas Lutheran University	Sequin, Texas	6:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/10	at Southwestern University	Georgetown, Texas	4:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/16	University of Dallas	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m.
Sun, 1/18	Austin College	Shreveport, La.	12:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/23	at Trinity University	San Antonio, Texas	6:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/24	at Schreiner University	Kerrville, Texas	4:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/30	Trinity University	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m

MEN'S

Sun, 12/7	Hendrix College	Shreveport, La.	4:00 p.m.
Wed,12/10	University of Texas at Dallas	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m.
Fri, 12/12	Rust College	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m.
Sat, 12/13	at ULL	Lafayette, La.	2:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/2	Colorado College	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/3	Colorado College	Shreveport, La.	6:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/9	at Texas Lutheran University	Seguin, Texas	8:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/1	at Southwestern University	Georgetown, Texas	6:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/16	University of Dallas	Shreveport, La.	8:00 p.m.
Sun, 1/18	Austin College	Shreveport, La.	2:00 p.m.
Fri, 1/23	at Trinity University	San Antonio, Texas	8:00 p.m.
Sat, 1/24	at Schreiner University	Kerrville, Texas	6:00 p.m.

PROOF: THE ANSWER IS IN THE BACK OF THE BOOK

By John La Costa '18

This November, the Centenary Theatre Department put on a production of Proof, by David Auburn. The play conveys the tale of Catherine, the daughter of the recently deceased Richard, the most brilliant mathematician of the last century and a victim of mental illness. As Catherine—played by freshman Taylor Rae Ackerman—comes to terms with her father's death, she also struggles with accepting her parallels with him: both possess tendencies toward genius as well as instability. The plot intensifies when Catherine's sister Claire—played by Junior Abigail Dillard—enters the equation, and her father's former student—played by Michael Nguyen—makes a shocking discovery.

The production was also the directing debut of alum Logan Sledge since his college years in Centenary's Theatre department.

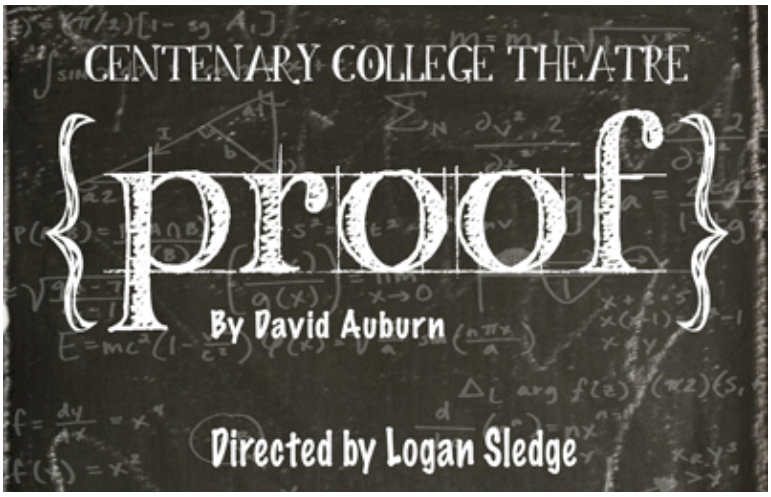
Ms. Dillard's performance as the smooth and suave Claire made a wonderful foil for Catherine's antics. Abigail's performance was a great way to end the semester for her before she begins her own production of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, scheduled to go on at MLP next spring. After a sparkling performance in this fall's earlier production of As You Like It, Taylor Rae returns to the stage in a major role, "I had to channel energy from a place I don't normally go to when I'm acting. It was challenging." The role of Catherine demands a wide range of emotions, and the actress rose to the task beautifully, constantly drawing the audience's eyes with her performance.

In addition to the amazing work onstage, Proof's technical aspects were a marvel to behold, with intricate lighting design and a visually striking set. This show definitely showcased what the theatre department can accomplish both on and off stage.

INSPIRED STUDENT ART

By Tyler Sanders '17

The student art gallery in the Marjorie Lyons Playhouse that housed artwork falling under the theme of Proof -- the most recent production by Centenary's Theatre Department -- was under my critical eye on the night of Friday, November 14. The pieces of glass covered in mathematical equations ranged from the easily recognizable to the foreign and confusing. Slim, feminine handwriting ranging in different inked colors gives a feeling that Catherine, the heroine from the show, could have written these to memorialize her magnificent work. The entirety of the student's worked encapsulated the show's focus on clear reasoning not based in doubt, but in the presence of evidence -- or proof.



SPOTLIGHT ON *TINTAMARRE*

Gage Dabin '18

Tintamarre is Centenary College's student-run heritage language press. According to Dr. Kress, "Tintamarre's focus and goal is to bring to light the richer literary heritage of the United States that is more than English; thus giving a voice to those marginalized by history."

This past summer, Tintamarre published Petites Communions: Poèmes, Chansons et Jonglements (Small Communions: Poems, Songs and Musings) by the American writer Kirby Jambon. With this collection of poems, Mr. Jambon became the first American to win the Henri de Regnier award, a prestigious literary award in France. To Dr. Kress, the simplicity and beauty of the poems in Petites Communions "establishes the beauty in small things, that in life everything can be beautiful." Tintamarre has helped spread Mr. Jambon's message of simple beauty across the world.

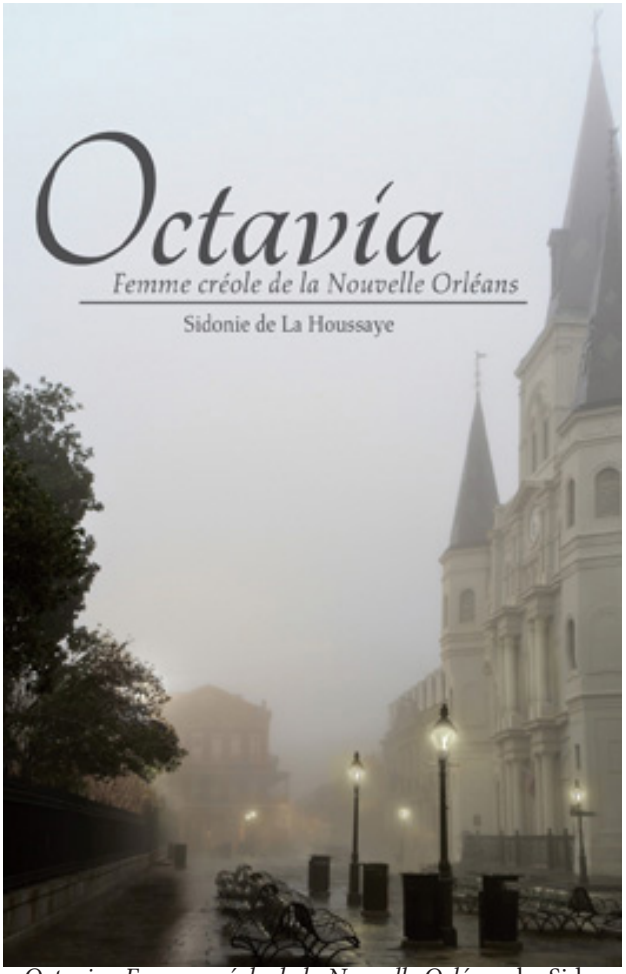
Mr. Jambon will travel to the French Consulate in New Orleans, to France to meet with the US ambassador, and to the Academy of France.

This press is the only primary French press in the United States; therefore, Tintamarre's voice is not regional, not national, but global. Tintamarre preserves Native American, Creole, Cajun, French, and other language traditions; it has become the link that leads readers around the world on an exploration of American-French cultural immersion.

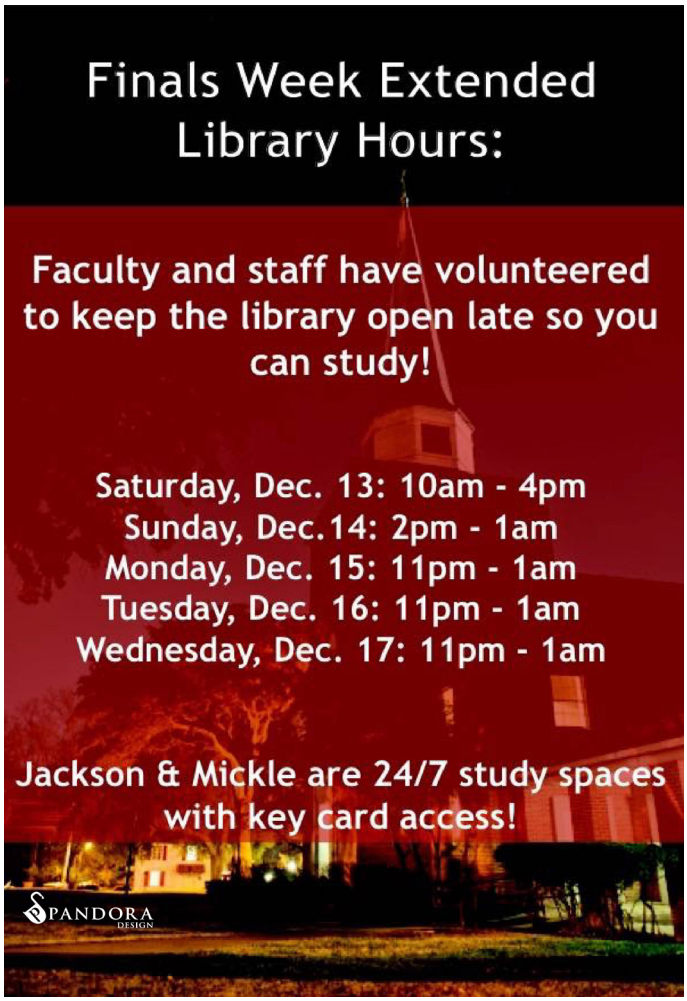
Throughout 1921-1968, the State Constitution of Louisiana banned the teaching of French; therefore, the loss of culture and language was quantifiable. The evolution of the Tintamarre from a newspaper in 1996 to a publishing house in 2003 led to a French literature restoration. Under the leadership of Dr. Kress, the Tintamarre embarked on a crusade to make the French language in Louisiana equal to English.

Because of the the sixty books that Dr. Kress and his students have published, the surviving members of the generations that lost French have had their heritage restored one book at a time. Through the books, Tintamarre seeks to restore the lost voices of those generations.

Tintamarre is the trailblazer of the French language in the entire United States. Tintamarre has responded to the need of future generations by preparing a treasure trove of literature; it has responded to the need of healing through the publication, and restoration of the French language; lastly, Tintamarre has given a voice to those that were silenced, thus allowing the citizens of the United States, and the world to understand the stories of those voices.



Octavia : Femme créole de la Nouvelle Orléans, by Sidonie de La Houssaye. Abridged and annotated by Carrie A. Lombardino and D. A. Kress. Introduction by Mary Greenwood.
Check out Tintamarre's full collection online!


Finals Week Extended Library Hours:
Faculty and staff have volunteered to keep the library open late so you can study!
Saturday, Dec. 13: 10am - 4pm
Sunday, Dec.14: 2pm - 1am
Monday, Dec. 15: 11pm - 1am
Tuesday, Dec. 16: 11pm - 1am
Wednesday, Dec. 17: 11pm - 1am
Jackson & Mickle are 24/7 study spaces with key card access!
PANDORA DESIGN

DEAR READER,

What a wonderful semester it has been! I could not be more proud of my staff and the work that we've accomplished in these short four months. The success and support that we've had is more than I could have ever asked for when I was first chosen to be Editor-in-Chief last spring. I'm looking forward to what we will accomplish in the semesters to come.

I'm excited to announce that next semester we are going to be producing two issues a month. And we will be including ...(wait for it)... a regular Sports Section!

If you are looking to to contribute, all students are welcome to attend our weekly meetings at 8pm in the Senate Room (3rd floor of the SUB). Make your voice heard!

As you dive into finals week, do not forget the wisest thing Kanye West ever said:

"Someone will always be prettier. Someone will always be smarter. Someone will always be younger. But they will never be you."

You've got this. You are a star, but not a 2-D star. You are an unstoppable burning, ball of gas.

The Congo Staff thanks you for all of your support, and wishes you Happy Holidays and a restful break.

Aly Velasquez,
Editor in Chief

Please send us your comments and concerns! Email the staff at cconglomerate@gmail.com

FREE

JANUARY 26, 2015

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE 3 SGA REPORT 4 ABIGAIL DILLARD & SHAKESPEARE 8

THE CONGLOMERATE

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MLK SERVICE DAY: STUDENTS GIVE BACK

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relations

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

For Centenary students, the answer to this question is simple — waking up at 7:00 o'clock in the morning on the holiday that pays tribute to the most important man of the 20th Century. On January 19, 2015, the 7th annual MLK Day of Service kicked off this year's Dream Week. Students gathered early Monday morning to rally before volunteering at various underprivileged locations in Shreveport. Guest speaker Mayor Ollie Tyler spoke with the volunteers about the impact they were making on the community. The volunteers served eleven locations throughout the Shreveport-Bossier area.

Cecilie Anderson, one of our exchange students from Denmark, said this about her experience with Common Ground: "It was nice to know who and why we're helping. Although we were only sorting clothes, we were truly making a difference."

Junior Sadie Wallace added, "Serving the community is always an eye opening experience and makes you aware of the needs around you. It was a blessing to be able to serve the Holy Angels community and help meet their needs."

This event brought students from all walks of life together to share the heritage and spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr.

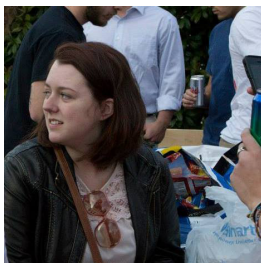
WE ASK YOU:

By Tyler Cameryn

WHAT WERE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS, AND HOW ARE THEY GOING?

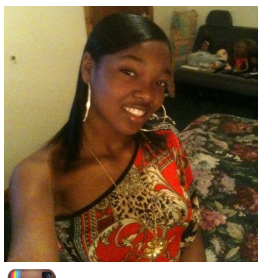
BAILEY MARTIN
"My goal for the New Year is to stay ontop of my academics, and it is going okay. I'm doing well in all but one of my classes!"

Instagram: @bailey_marie234



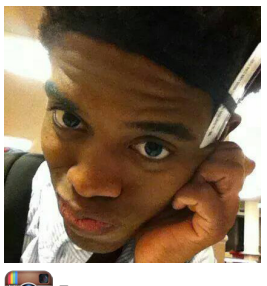
CAITY HAYWORTH
"To be healthier. It's not super specific, just making better choices. I've been sticking to it pretty well."

Instagram: @youngsnuggly



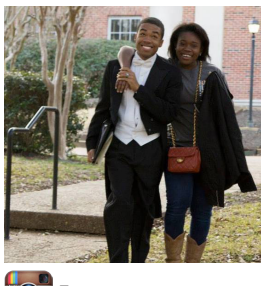
CHEREDITH RHONE
"My New Year's Resolution is to drink more water daily, and every day is filled with 8 glasses of water!"

Instagram: @cheredith_dianna



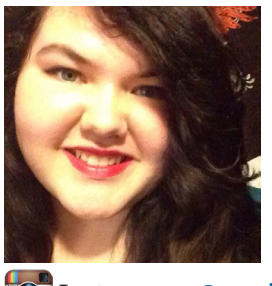
STEVEN KNIGHT
"I won't worry so much about relationships and focus on personal discovery."

Instagram: @pangymeetsworld



TREY DAVIS
"My New Year's Resolution is simply to be a better, nicer version of myself. I've only been moderately successful because my sass still slips out multiple times a day."

Instagram: @_cortezzz



MARILYN WELLS
"I gave up full sugar Coke. And now drink Diet Coke, which is nasty. So I'm a ball of sadness."

Instagram: @marilynw12

GENTS TAKE THE ADDYS

By Tyler Cameryn ‘17

Centenary design students are gearing up to compete in the American Advertising Awards (the ADDYs) this February. The ADDYs is the largest competition for designers in the creative field, ranging from billboards, television, to print advertisements. It also serves as a local competition for professional and student work. here are three tiers in the competition. First is the local level; after a submission wins at this tier, it competes at a regional level. A winner at the regional level goes on to compete at the national tier. The local chapter for the Shreveport-Bossier area awards a scholarship of $2,500 every year to a student enrolled in Communication. The recipient has to keep a 3.0 GPA.

Professor Hawkins, Assistant Professor of Communication, served as both the Vice President and President, so after she finished telling me about the ADDYs, I asked her what she did in those positions. “As the Vice President, you are asked to preside over the Awards for your chapter, and the President focuses on continuing to realize the chapter’s mission. And that is to promote networking and professional development in the local advertising community as well as to create a way to recognize the exceptional work and promote educational opportunities for those interested in this field.”

Jessica Hawkins and student Cadie Hancock at last year’s ADDY Awards Gala

The best part about the ADDYs is that every submission from the student allows potential clients on various levels to see their work. “It is especially gratifying to see the students’ design work recognized as being among the strongest produced in north Louisiana, competing against several other universities,” said Hawkins. “This speaks well of Centenary’s liberal arts education model, where honing design skills is placed in the broader context of critical-thinking, with students making connections between a variety of academic areas.”

She told me about the esteemed group of Centenary Students who have attended the As. ”In 2012, two Centenary students took home a bronze [Charles Madden] and silver [Krista McKinney] ADDY award, the first student design awards in our institution’s history, from what I’ve been able to find,” said Hawkins. “In 2013, Centenary students brought home six ADDy awards, including two bronzes, two silvers, a gold, and a Judges’ Award of Distinction Students [Cadie Hancock, Chad Nelson, Charles Madden, Katie James] attended the ADDY Awards Gala, which provided a valuable opportunity to interact with industry professionals and view other award-winning work, including the work of their peers from other regional institutions such as Louisiana Tech University. I find that exposing students to the work of peers outside their institution is an effective method for raising expectations and inspiring greater productivity in their own work.” Last year, Emma Viskozi won 2 student silver ADDYs, and Gina Vaca-Loyola also placed silver.

WE ASK YOU:

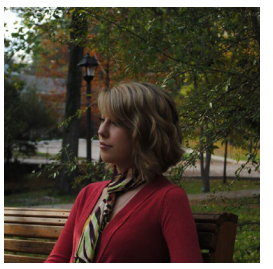
By Zachary Stielper ‘15

WHAT NEWS SOURCES DO YOU USE, AND WHY?

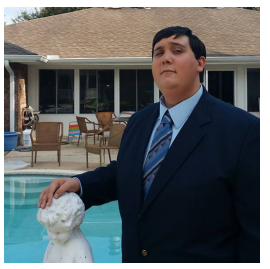
REGINA PRICE
“Typically CNN -- I feel out of American media outlets, they are the least biased. Of news on TV they do a good job on showing news around the world for both an educated and uneducated audience.”

Twitter: @ginasaurous

LAURA CROTEAU
“When current events happen, I’m normally on Imgur anyway, so I see both sides of people’s comments!”



Instagram: @lolacro

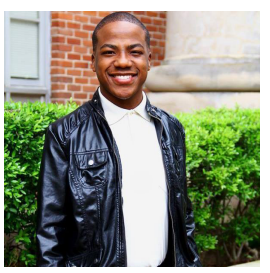


BEN SANCHEZ
“Multiple places: Al Jazeera, Reuters, and NPR, mostly. I believe that they encompass a less biased news source compared to the traditional 24 hour news networks. I don’t like bias in my news -- I just want facts.”

Instagram: @bayoubenny

ELIZABETH KING
“I get my news from CNN or Huffington Post on my phone. They seem pretty reliable.”

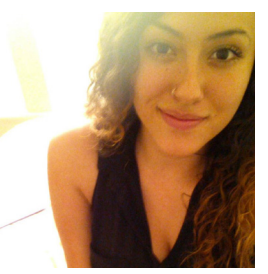
Twitter: @glitterkinggg



MARV’KEVEA CAMPBELL
“The horse’s mouth and official numbers once released. And by horse’s mouth, I mean Obama and what his proposals say.”

Instagram: @baddieboybey

ANGIE ADAME
“I usually get them from the Internet. If I’m interested about a topic, I will research about it. But I usually find out about what is going on in the world through Imgur or Facebook.”



Instagram: @angieadame50

STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY

By Adam Stephens '15

The Diversity Committee has been a powerful force for change at Centenary, and it's partially thanks to student participation that the committee has been able to enact—and will continue to enact—such changes.

Diversity Committee is a group of students, faculty, and staff that work to improve Centenary's ability to accommodate for the complexities of diversity. The group is comprised of a policy committee and a programming committee; the policy committee provides funding for diversity-related organizations and events and puts forth policies (such as the recently accepted domestic partner benefits policy, and the transgender record keeping policy that is currently under review). The programming committee plans events such as Dream Week and First Friday programs, which are informal discussions on topics of diversity and inequality.

The goals of the committee include: creating a safe environment for all walks of life informally and institutionally; creating a proactive environment for diversity; empowering students to learn about diversity and to be open about their own differences; teaching student leaders to carry on small organizations dedicated to diversity and how to be effective leaders; teaching faculty members to have more accepting classrooms; and creating a network for the Shreveport community to come for advice on diversity issues.

"I think we have been successful," said Diversity Committee intern Eli Capello. "Chris Lavan and LaToya Hemphill have created a growing foundation that I think has made a huge impact. Centenary is drastically different and better for diversity than it was during Chris Lavan's time at Centenary (he used to be a student before he worked in the 2910 Building). Centenary is drastically different and better for diversity than it was during my first year."

As an intern for the Diversity Committee, Eli has put a lot of effort during his time at Centenary to help the college make enormous strides towards the Committee's goals of a healthy, diversified campus. He has helped write policies (such as the aforementioned domestic partner benefits and transgender record-keeping policies), added ASEANA to the community partner list, performs response work in aiding students with complaints about diversity insensitivity, and has organized multiple events tied into diversity.

"I would say the most important work I do is the everyday work I put in," said Eli. "Making sure events are well advertised on campus, reaching out to students who are leaders of different diversity related groups on campus, looking after students who struggle due to stereotype threats and ignorance. Students come to my office hours with ideas for programming and I make it happen."

This is Eli's last semester at Centenary. Currently, the Diversity Committee is searching for applicants who are willing to apply for the intern position. The ideal candidate would be someone with innovative ideas who is willing to listen to the advice of others and make Centenary better. Duties will include meetings with Chris Lavan to put forth ideas in helping Centenary with Diversity. It is not a work-study; rather, it is a job with a flexible work schedule.

"When we find someone, I will train them before I leave and leave them with all of the materials they would ever need," said Eli. "I don't want people to be intimidated by all of the things I have done -- you don't have to be me. I didn't always have experience with Diversity issues but the internship allowed me to gain experience. I made mistakes. Everyone makes mistakes — these issues are big. We want someone who is passionate and willing to learn."

While Eli has accomplished quite a lot in the Diversity Committee, he believes that the Committee and Centenary itself will continue to thrive in promoting diversity even after his time at Centenary is at an end.

"...[M]ost importantly... this is something bigger than me," said Eli. "Much bigger. The Diversity Intern position stands for a lot to Centenary and Shreveport. The fact that Centenary is willing to pay a student to do this work will continue to change the world in meaningful ways beyond me. For years to come, students will come in and use their ideas to make Centenary and Shreveport better. The Diversity Internship is a dream that will continue past my time at Centenary. It will continue to thrive under the leadership of Chris Lavan, LaToya Hemphill, and Dr. Kress."

FEATURE

SGA REPORT

Ever wonder what your elected peers are doing with your student fees? Or about student issues? The Conglomerate has the scoop!

All students are invited to attend SGA meetings every Tuesday @ 8pm in the Whited Room

By John La Costa '18

1.13.15

AT A GLANCE:

- Financial Committee's "FastCash" program will be going digital; groups requesting funds will now be able to do so via Orgsync
- Plans to utilize social media to convey a greater appreciation of Centenary's faculty
- Plans to implement Big Three meetings to foster cooperation
- Notions made by Senate to include FYE material in the Centenary in Paris Immersion Term

BIG PICTURE:

Something that seemed to drive the meeting was Centenary capitalizing on social media and other electronic mediums—like Facebook and Orgsync—to further various campus endeavors. To simplify transactions between SGA and student organizations requesting minimal financial allocations for projects, the Financial Committee's "FastCash" program will be going digital; groups requesting funds will now be able to do so via Orgsync. This will spare student organizations the vagaries of "the entire formal process of regular SGA financial resolutions" said President Miles Robinson. With Orgsync's rise over the past two years, this shift hardly comes as a surprise.

SGA also plans to utilize social media to convey a greater appreciation of Centenary's faculty; various professors will be "spotlighted" by SGA throughout the year to emphasize the close bond between students and their professors, and honor the contributions our professors have made to the Centenary community over the years. This tribute will carry over into Centenary appreciation week.

Continuing in the theme of spirit, the meeting proceeded from this point in a more serious tone; President Robinson and other representatives brought to the table the topic of cooperation amongst SGA, CAB, and RHA. Many would say that there is a rift between the Big Three, what with tension surrounding events such as last year's drag show. This mentality is one that SGA would very much like to change. The semester will see the organization of collaborative meetings between the Big Three—with the ideal outcome of monthly meetings in regard to proposed campus activities—to ensure cooperation amongst Centenary's vast leadership population.

In regards to CIP: the administration has made it no secret of its intentions for the immersion course to take place once more this coming fall. Despite the controversy it has gained over the last year—such as claims that it lowers the freshman work ethic (as evidenced by the record number of freshman class drops this fall) and the tuition raise it has warranted—it received an overwhelmingly positive review by those who attended the trip. A recent Orgsync survey illustrated that "over 75% of participants" were influenced by the trip when deciding which college they wanted to attend, and all but one of those surveyed would recommend the program to prospective students. When Mark Miller made these findings apparent to those present, the discussion shifted from "What's wrong with CIP?" to "What can we do with CIP?" Notions were made to include FYE material in the immersion course, or possibly moving CIP to the spring, which earned the reply from Dean Miller, "It's too early to say."

1.20.15

AT A GLANCE:

- Major Project Fund currently has $39,000 in it. What would you like to see done with it?
- Miles' proposed meeting to discuss student-Board of Trustees collaborative events with Dr. Rowe has been cancelled this month
- Admissions has received 521 applications

BIG PICTURE:

Vice President of Finance Raquel Candal announced that the Major Project Fund is currently $39,000. The fund is used to enhance student life in some way, but hasn't been significantly touched in a while. SGA wants to know what students want to do with it. Tell your senators your thoughts!

The Program committee is planning a dinner for alumni -- the date is to be determined.

Lauren Benoit announced the excitement over Starbucks, but final cost of equipment and supplies have become unclear. Their original budget was $2,500. After installation of equipment, the actual amount SGA is to be charged is still being looked into. For now, enjoy those frappuccinos (YES, THERE ARE FRAPPUCCINOS).

Big Three meeting planning is progressing successfully. There have been proposed monthly meetings to begin later this semester. Hopefully the three organizations can find some common ground.

Miles' proposed meeting to discuss student-Board of Trustees collaborative events with Dr. Rowe has been cancelled this month. He said that casual events that encouraged discussion between board members to actually talk and get to know students have been rejected by Rowe in the past.

Now for CIP: Immersion terms will now be included as a part of faculty curriculum and salary— they will receive no extra pay for it. No correlation has been found between CIP and the freshman's average GPA of 2.8. This has been the average freshman range for the last four years.On a lighter note, Admissions has already received 521 applications this year.

IFC and Panhellenic proposed a convention budget in Indianapolis for $5000, and FCA proposed a trip for $1000. Both resolutions were tabled (as per SGA bylaws), and will be looked over again next meeting.

COMMUTER COMMOTION

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

The Class of 2016 will be the last to know the commuter policy of yesteryear. This policy that regulated off campus student living (which was in place until 2013) was significantly more lax. Students at the time could choose to live off campus after the age of 21 with no restrictions. Also if the student's family lived in Shreveport or was a senior, they could automatically live off campus.

Beginning with the Class of 2017, students must live on campus unless they are 23 years old or older; they may also live off campus if they have dependents or are married. Exceptions to these rules are made for extenuating circumstances. Religion, medical reasons, and caregiver status are common reasons students apply for off campus housing. These circumstances are reviewed by the Exceptions Review Committee made up of two Residence Life members and 2 Staff members. These members review each case and decide whether an exception can be made. If the student disagrees with the ruling, he/she must then appeal to the Dean of Students.

After speaking with Residence Life Coordinator Bethany Stafford and several students, I discovered many of our students had similar feelings about the policy. Here are some of the pros and cons of living on campus.

PROS

Living on campus prepares students for the real world.

• Students share rooms and living spaces with multiple people, which teaches them how to interact with their peers and maintain hygienic living spaces without outside help.
• Students also learn how to become independent beings from their families -- a vital part of growing up.
• Students are more likely to be involved with campus activities when they do not have to drive to attend. This gives them the advantage to further their education and add new items under the "work" category of their resumes (cough, join the Conglomerate, cough).
• Students are also more likely to go to class on a regular basis when they do not have to worry about the time it takes to commute.
• The cost of living on campus and living off campus are very close in price, and scholarships are available to many residents who live in the Shreveport-Bossier Area.

CONS

Students' freedoms are limited.

• Students share rooms and living spaces with multiple people, which teaches them how to interact with their peers and maintain hygienic living spaces without outside help.
• Students also learn how to become independent beings from their families -- a vital part of growing up.
• Students are more likely to be involved with campus activities when they do not have to drive to attend. This gives them the advantage to further their education and add new items under the "work" category of their resumes (cough, join the Conglomerate, cough).
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CENTENARY SPORTS:

SOCCER

AMAYA DRAFTED INTO 2014 ALL-SCAC MEN'S SOCCER SECOND TEAM

By Allie Hornsby '17

Though there are many notable players for the Gents, Ivnn Amaya was privileged to be named to the 2014 All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Men's Soccer Second Team. Amaya led the team with six goals and is the first Gent since 2012 to be named to the second team. Looking forward to next season the rising team has already begun spring training and pickup games.

The Gents Soccer Team closed the 2014 season and is ready to work for a game changing 2015 season. The Gents acquired a new coach, Emmett Rutkowski, on April 1st, 2014. After meeting the new coach, the Gents hit the ground running with spring training and work-outs. The Gents started the season strong, creating a new precedent for the men's soccer program. They ended up with a 4-12-3 season, finishing eighth in the SCAC. This was a strong improvement from the previous years.

Congratulations to the Gents on gaining momentum for years to come.

2014 Centenary Ladies Soccer Team

SPUDIC AND ALEXANDER NAMED ALL-SCAC SECOND TEAM MEMBERS

By Gage Dabin '18

This season for the Ladies Soccer was unique to say the least. The Ladies Soccer Team received a new head coach, Coach Orr, and therefore had to adjust to the change. Coach Orr's first goal this past season was to establish a relationship with all his players and be able to successfully carry on the legacy of the previous Ladies coach, Clint Evans.

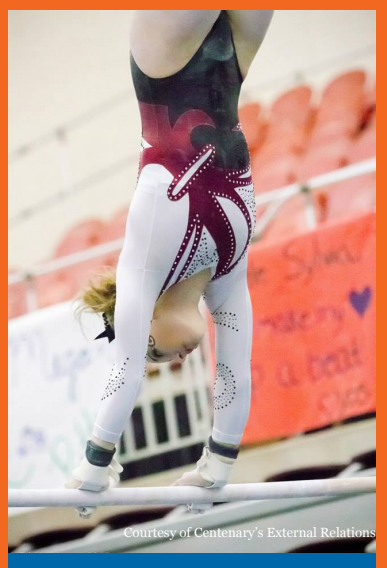
Through the success of establishing a relationship with the Ladies, Coach Orr was able to implement his method of soccer which is fast paced, fun, and a tactical style of play. This play style and the dedication of the players led to Freshman Riley Spudic and Junior Madison Alexander to being named All-SCAC Second team members. Although the team this season went 1-15, the Ladies never ceased to improve throughout their season. The majority of the team consisted of freshman; therefore, they had a larger responsibility this season in setting the tone of the program for the upcoming years.

To Coach Orr, "The freshman girls made an immense impact. They had a lot on their shoulders, and they delivered. They were nothing but a positive impact to the team, and the legacy of the program."

With the relationships developed this past season, and the focus in this off season the Ladies will be a force to be reckoned with next Fall!

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

GYMNAST ASHLEY WHITE



Ashley White

By Gage Dabin '18

At the first Centenary gymnastics meet against Texas Womens University, Freshman Ashley White started off the season with a well deserved third place finish -- but she was not satisfied.

On Monday, January 19th, White competed at Illinois State University (ISU) where she won her first all-around title of the 2015 season. White received this award by scoring two second place finishes in
both the floor exercise with a 9.725 and the balance beam with a 9.475. White also was able to finish third overall with a fantastic score of 9.6 on the vault. Her combined score of 38.075, and her top three finishes in three of four events established Ashley as a powerful force on the team, and a Lady to watch these next years.

A SEMESTER IN REVIEW

SWIM

TEAM TO COMPETE IN THE NCAA CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS THIS FEBRUARY

By Gage Dabin ‘18

This upcoming February, the Ladies and the Gents will have the opportunity to compete in the NCAA Conference Championships. This season is the first year they are able to compete for this title. And the team will not being slowing down their progress any time soon.

Their determination is reflected in the team going 1-2 in dual meets; however, they have taken first against four teams at the Austin College Invitational, second against five teams at the Hendrix Invitational, and fifth against nine at the Northwest Texas Shootout.

Reflecting upon the season so far and the team’s goals, Cam Brandoa said, “I believe, since we are a smaller team this year, our biggest goal (that we most certainly accomplished) was to be a very high-octane group, meaning each individual gentleman is able to compete at a high level in several different events. Especially the freshmen who have defined themselves, not only by swimming fast in meets, but also by working hard each day in practice.”

The leadership stemming from Beau Montgomery, Kayla Thornhill, Cameron Barney, and Arash Ataei has created the competitive atmosphere surrounding the team and has pushed the team to new standards that will define this team as champions for years to come. It sets a precedent for what hard work will reward to the team; namely, camaraderie, victory, and prestige.

Courtesy of Centenary’s External Relations

VOLLEYBALL

TEAM THRIVES IN 2014

By Gage Dabin ‘18

The volleyball program at Centenary has existed for half a century, and in that span of time, the team has only recorded one official winning season and one season with a .500 winning percentage.

Coach Carter and Assistant Coach BT both see the program as full of potential and the eventual owner of conference titles. In the two years that this dynamic duo have been at Centenary, they have already begun changing the dynamic of thought. Before their arrival the program posted a 2-32 record; however, with Carter and BT the team as of this year has tripled the wins of that season.

The freshmen this year and the following three years are the building blocks in establishing the new culture of winning. To do this, Coach Carter and BT have set the next seasons goal as to win enough games to break the double digit bracket, and the Ladies want to get to the conference tournament, and win it. The work ethic of these coaches have been instilled in the Ladies.

Assistant Coach BT mentioned, “that the Ladies on the court have earned every right to wear the number on their back, and the spandex. There is no sense of entitlement in their attitude; they have the drive to be competitive to hold their own.”

GYMNASTICS

GYMNASTS VAULT TO THE TOP

By Allie Hornsby ‘17

Centenary Ladies Gymnastics team opened season January 10th with a home meet against Texas Woman’s University. Sophomore Allison Scates came out on top and received the honor of Best all around followed by freshman Ashley White who finish third. The Ladies Compete in vault, balance beam, uneven bars, and floor at each meet. There are top scorers for each event, and Centenary had several titleholders. Kellie Slater scored a 9.675 to win the vault, and Sylvia Keiter and Allison Scates placed second and third in the floor routine.

The Ladies will host three more home meets this year with the next meet being February 6th at the Gold Dome. Don’t miss the chance to support the Lady Gymnasts!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ABIGAIL DILLARD

By Zachary Stielper '15

Friends, Ladies, Gentlemen, lend me your ears... or, rather, lend me your eyes! Marjorie Lyons Playhouse presents The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged)[revised] written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield and directed by Centenary student Abigail Dillard.

While normally the sight of "Shakespeare" is enough to make some run in the opposite direction, this take on his work is not your typical iambic pentameter. The show follows a group of college students trying to present all thirty-seven of William Shakespeare's shows in one evening. To do this, actors Árni Sigurðsson, Montel McKenzie, Jordan Fell, and Taylor Ackerman improvise, play multiple characters, take volunteers from the audience, play games, and even rap!

Director Abigail Dillard says that she chose this play to give the school a break from the hectic schedules, school work, and stress. This show is somewhat of a departure from the theater's normal lineup, which is often filled with thought-provoking dramas that deal with heavy subjects.

This show is an entirely student-run production, meaning Centenary students fill every role from set design to director. This sort of show is not atypical for Centenary's theater department; every year there is a main stage student-directed production in addition to the directing classes' one-act shows.

As a junior in the department, Abigail has been involved in 5 student-run productions and says that this is her favorite yet. "For me, this is a perfect work environment. Since this is a show about college students, my team has loved coming in and offering new ideas; my job has been just to stream line there," she says.

After graduating from Centenary, Abigail wants to attend a seminary to pursue a Masters of Arts, after which she hopes to direct her own theater productions within churches and tour them around to different youth groups around the country. When it comes to her directing style, Dillard approaches each scene with a clear vision, but then gives the actors freedom to interpret that vision as their own. She says, "I try not to say 'no', and I always love and encourage questions and trying something new. It's all a part of the adventure."

Centenary College Department of Theatre and Dance
Marjorie Lyons Playhouse Presents
The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)
Directed by Abigail Dillard
February 5-7 at 8pm | February 8 at 2pm
Purchase tickets online:
www.centenary.edu/playhouse/tickets
@MLPlayhouse

So, if you are looking for a fun, light-hearted evening, then The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged)[revised] is just the show for you. So come out and watch a group of crazy friends pretend to have everything together as they present a (somewhat) educational performance of everything you wanted and didn't want to know about Shakespeare. For an hour or so, just relax and smile and laugh until everything hurts. Abigail promises that after seeing the show, you'll be sure to want to come back to see the play again. Luckily there will be four opportunities to see this comedic play: February 5-7 at 8 pm and February 8th at 2 p.m. Seating is limited so be sure to reserve your ticket by calling (318) 869-5242. Remember all Centenary students/faculty/staff get FREE admission to all Playhouse productions.

HEY!

Students, External Relations wants to hear from you!

Fill out the Office of External Relations communication survey and help our staff learn about the most effective ways to communicate with students.

The survey can be accessed through your email and on the Congo's Facebook page!

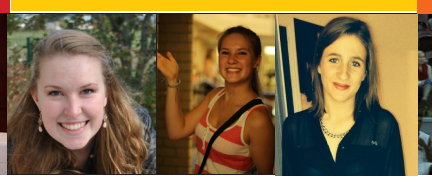
FREE

FEBRUARY 18, 2015

NEWS

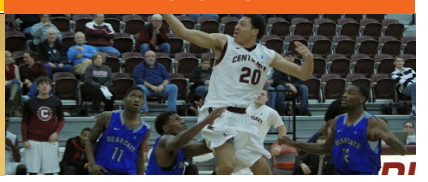
WWII VETS HONORED

FEATURES



3 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

SPORTS



5 BASKETBALL

7-8

THE CONGLOMERATE

THE BIWEEKLY INDEPENDENT VOICE OF CENTENARY COLLEGE

VOL. 92 ISSUE 5

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JUST KIDDING: MICKLE RENOVATIONS ONGOING

By Zach Stielper '15

Following the completion of the new window installations in Mickle Hall last semester, most students believed that the shiny new glass panes were the extent of Mickle's renovations. But the makeover is not over yet. In addition to the newly installed windows, Mickle is currently undergoing work to build a new "grand" entrance.

The new entrance into the hall of science is located in the middle of the first floor, across from the Carlile Auditorium. What was once a classroom is now the beginnings of a foyer, nestled just behind the oak tree decorating the front of the building.

Opinions on the addition of this new entrance are mixed. While the addition of the two large doorways to the middle of the building adds symmetry and is aesthetically pleasing, some say that another entrance (making a total of five) into the building is superfluous. Others argue that the money, which is funded by the same NASA grant that bought the new windows, could be used for other updates to the building, such as updating long-outdated equipment.

Dr. David Bieler, head of the Geology and Biophysics Departments, however, says that in terms of ADA compliance and student safety, the decision is a good one. The new entrance will be accompanied by a ramp, enabling the building to be accessed by individuals with disabilities from the front of the building. Currently, the only handicap-accessible entrance is the back entrance nearest the arboretum. Not only will the grand entrance offer an accessible entrance in the front, but this entrance will be very near the elevator. This will further user-friendliness in the building. From a safety standpoint, this doorway will offer a more visible, sheltered entrance for students coming from the north side of campus, who, up until now, have to traverse through the arboretum, which can be somewhat frightening in the dead of night after hours worth of cramming.

One of the major drawbacks to this new entryway is that, in order for it to be created, a classroom had to be destroyed- a classroom that, in many people's opinion, was the nicest in the building. When asked if the loss of the classroom would affect the Geology Department, Dr. Bieler said that, "Not having the classroom means that we [the Geology Department] will have to do something different." He said that the tables and chairs that were in the room will be moved to another, slightly smaller, underutilized classrooms down the hall. He noted that if the student population was as large as it was several years ago, a strain might have been felt, but that with the current number of students, the loss of classroom would probably not cause much of a problem.

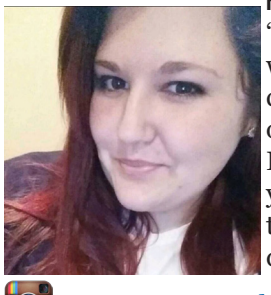
This project, which was presented to the science division by the Provost, is being overseen by Chris Sampite, head of facilities, and is the first step in a series of projects to be done on the Quad. In addition to the new doorway, the flooring in the first floor will be replaced with wood laminate-style flooring. That project is slated to be done over Mardi Gras break. Though the project is not without its costs (both literal and opportunistic), the introduction of the new entryway and lobby has the potential to offer Mickle a new space, where divisional events can take place.

Next time you're in the Quad, be sure to check out the newest additions to Mickle.

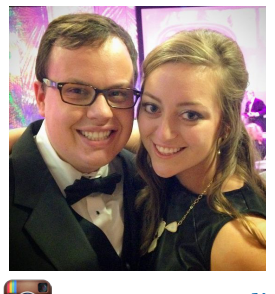
WE ASK YOU:

By Tyler Cameryn

WHO IS YOUR VALENTINE AND WHY?



HEGHAN HERZOG-HENRY
"Actually, my valentine would be myself because I deserve someone as good as me. And I don't have that person yet, so the next best thing would be my own damn self."
Instagram: @mnhzone



CADIE HANCOCK
"He's the peanut butter to my jelly, the bacon to my eggs, the fish to my chips and the stud to my muffin: my boyfriend Walker Gamble."
Instagram: @cadieeee

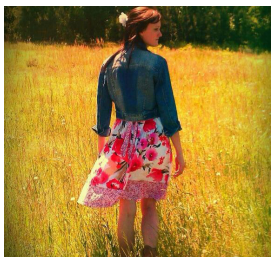
MARK SHEPARD
"Princess Peach is my valentine because 2-D women are the path to victory"
Instagram-less: Get in the 21st century, Mark!

WE ASK YOU:

WHAT WOULD YOU SEE DONE WITH THE STUDENT PROJECT FUND?

By Zachary Stielper '15

The student project fund is a fund that is overseen by SGA. The fund is going to reach **$54,000** this year - that's a lot of money, guys. If you could choose how this money is spent, what would you do? Plot twist: students *do* get to choose! The money is used to enhance student life in any way the student body sees fit. Here are some of your ideas!



BECCA KAY

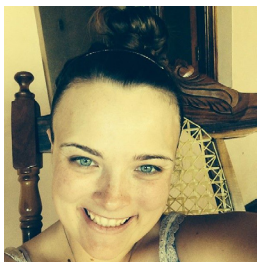
"Something that would be really great for the money to go towards would be the rock wall. It's great, but it's been weathered, and getting splinters while climbing is not enjoyable."

Instagram: @NamesBecca

NICOLE TIEDGE

"I think the to-go system in the Caf should be re-redone. I don't always have time to eat in the Caf, so when I get the to-go food, it's really bad quality compared to the food being served. It's also cold so if I want a warm meal I'll have to get it some other way. On top of that, the options are extremely limited. It would be nice to have either a better to-go system or we should be allowed to have to go boxes for the food being served in the Caf."

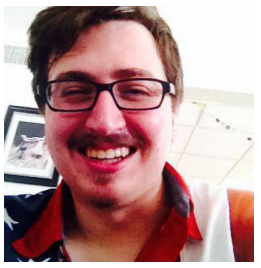
Instagram: @nico_tg



ASHLEY STRONG

"I've always thought it'd be nice to have covered walkways."

Instagram: @astrong56



LOGAN SETTOON

"I wanna say more comfortable beds. I hate my bed."

Twitter: @OleSpittoon

RYAN FLANAGAN

"I've always wanted to see purifying water stations that you can refill a water bottle."

Instagram: @supahflanny

KALI BERNARD

"I think that the school could use a few more lights around campus to make it a little safer. Dorms could perhaps be spruced up a bit. Mainly I think that whatever the money is spent on, the students should be given the opportunity to vote on what they feel the money should be used for."

Instagram: @_kalz_

SARAH IRONS

"We have been talking a lot about the special projects fund in SGA meetings lately, and some of the ideas that have been tossed around are getting keycard access on more campus buildings that way students will have more places on campus to study. Another idea that has been mentioned is installing water fountains that are able to fill water bottles (like the one in Sexton and Tuner Art Centenr) in more buildings on campus. I like both of these ideas a lot, and I feel like they would both enhance student life on campus!"

Instagram: @sarahirons2

RICARDO GARCIA

"I would like to see many more activities like we've had in the past. I know CAB does it, but I think they get their money from SGA. The things I'm talking about are casino night, bingo, and other activities where students can get prizes. Also, other ones like bubble soccer we had last semester. Those things were really fun and will probably be some of the top things I remember about Centenary!"

Too Mysterious For Instagram

FRANCE HONORS LOCAL WWII VETS

By Gage Dabin ‘18

On Thursday, January 22, in the Whited Room, the Consul General of France, George Trumel, honored four local WWII Veterans by presenting them (and the family of Hubert Joiner) with the Legion of Honor Award.

The award originated in 1802, when Napoleon Bonaparte created it to recognize his bravest and strongest soldiers. This award is the highest honor a French soldier can receive; it is equal to the Medal of Honor for US Military Services. These men -- Rollin Cochran, Ethan Gillispie Jr., Dr. William Wilkins Jr., and Hubert Joiner -- all fought in the vicious battles of WWII, from storming the beaches at Normandy, to pushing back the German offensive at the Battle of the Bulge, to clearing the cities through hedge country on their way to Berlin.

George Trumel stated, “More than seventy years ago these men gave their lives, their youth, in the pursuit of freeing France and Europe. They are nothing but heroes. In the name of France and its people, we thank you. Today, through this award, we honor you and all Americans who stand for the values that define our countries: human dignity, democracy, peace, and love.” The private event and the bestowing of the award showed the deep reverence that the community, family, and the people of France have for those that gave everything for those who had nothing. On a larger scale, he mentioned the Charlie Hebdo attack and thanked the US and Louisiana for being there in France’s moment of crisis. He again thanked the veterans for their sacrifice for they “helped the freedom of speech and democracy stay alive in a country that had almost lost it with the occupation of Nazi Germany and have allowed it to be in existence today.”

These men, their families, and the community gathered around to remember these moments of bravery and vowed to never forget those who sacrificed so that we could live today.

Courtesy of Centenary’s External Relation

IT’S SUPER Q!

By John La Costa ‘18

Outreach has recently unveiled their plans to host and LGBTQ+ prom on campus this coming April. What started out originally as a fun event for Centenary’s Queer community later evolved into a larger event open not only to LGBTQ+ students on campus, but also for any students at local high schools.

Since many high schools—particularly in the south—are unaccepting of same-sex/queer couples attending student functions, Centenary’s Queer Prom with provide the opportunity for LGBTQ+ students in the Shreveport area to have a prom experience with their partner of choice without fear of judgment or harassment by their fellow students, or school administration.

The event is Comic Book themed and will be hosted in Kilpatrick auditorium on April 18th, from 8pm-11pm. Attendance is open to all LGBTQ+ and allies on campus.

FEATURE

SGA REPORT

Ever wonder what your elected peers are doing with your student fees? Or about student issues? The Conglomerate has the scoop!

All students are invited to attend SGA meetings every Tuesday @ 8pm in the Whited Room

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

1.27.15

AT A GLANCE:

- Student survey about Cafeteria
- Possible installation of ID reader on Smith
- Interfraternity Council and Theatre Dept. get funding to send students to conferences

BIG PICTURE:

VP of Programming Ben Green spoke about the possibility of a dinner with SGA and Alumni.

Lauren Benoit, VP of Policy, suggested a cafeteria survey to improve issues that students have brought attention to. She also discussed the possibility of the installation of an ID reader on the Smith building. The final cost of the Starbucks installation was $3500.

President Miles Robinson reminded the meeting of an upcoming sophomore retreat. He also discussed the possibility of a meeting between President Rowe, the Board of Trustees, and the SGA senators. The student body as a whole would not be invited.

The organization then moved to adopt resolutions from the last meeting.

The first of these was for Interfraternity Council to attend a conference. Initially, the request was for ten percent of the total cost ($302.93). After debate, the governing body moved to instead provide the Council with $1250. The resolution passed and the students attended the conference.

The last resolution was for the Theatre Department. The Department planned to take 11 students to a regional acting conference. The total cost was $2362. The resolution was passed.

2.3.15

AT A GLANCE:

- Fast Cash application soon to be functioning
- Rowe to give report to SGA and Board of Turustees report in March/April
- Dean Miller says budget soon to be "truly balanced"
- ACS gets funding to send studetns to convention

BIG PICTURE:

VP of Finance Raquel Candal noted that she hopes that the fast cash application will be up by the end of the week on OrgSync for online use.

VP of Programing Ben Green met with Mark Miller to brainstorm ways in which SGA can facilitate communication with other organizations. They are currently thinking about planning an event.

VP Policy Lauren Benoit is working on getting key card access for Smith within the fiscal year. She said that the student board of directors meeting is looking good. They are working on conducting surveys in the Caf.

President Miles Robinson reported that his meeting with President Rowe last Thursday went well. He was able to convince him to do a full SGA and Board of Trustees report in March or April. He is unsure if the timetable. Rowe be going to SGA to present the next stage of his commitments. They've also been brainstorming tangible improvements around campus around $3-5k. Miles plans to invite Ron Blue to SGA to talk about the budgets. There has also been a push for more campus artwork.

Dean Miller reported that the depreciation-assets of the college is about 2 mil in value per year. He said that over the last five years, the college has been balancing the budget in tiers of the total depreciation values. This year is 1.6 million, last year was 1.2 million, and next year will be 2 million. According to Dean Miller, as of next year our budget will be "truly balanced." Also, the heads of the faculty divisions, Dean Miller, and President Robinson were asked to submit lists of improvements for prioritization.

The American Chemical Society presented a budget for $1366.37 to fund three students to go to an ACS convention. It passed unanimously.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Hej! Salut! This semester, we have a wonderful batch of international students from Denmark and France! Get to know our new friends.

1. Where are you from? 2. What is your major? 3. What has been your biggest culture shock? 4. What do you want Americans to know about where you come from?

JEANNE PELISSON

1. Originally from Dijon, France; studies in Lille
2. Communication
3. Everyone drives instead of walking
4. Excellent mustard and wine!

MATHILDE FOVELLE

1. Lille, France
2. International Business
3. How big and bulky the cars are
4. The soccer team Lille-Losc.

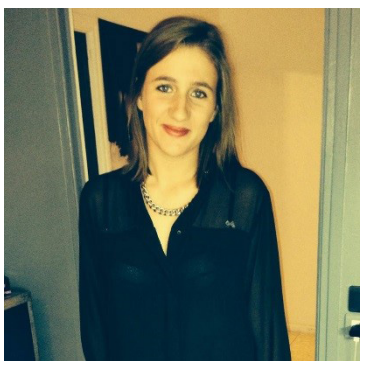
JULIETTE LOUF

1. Originally from Calais, France; studies in Lille
2. Communication
3. Fast food and restaurants that are open all night
4. Calais is the closest city to England - when the sky is blue, you can see the English coast from Calais' cliff.

JULIETTE RAULINE

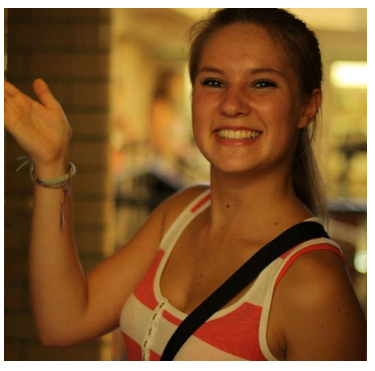
1. Originally from Normandy, France; studies in Lille
2. Communication
3. Flip-flops with socks and the lack of red meat
4. In Normandy, a traditional meal is apple ice cream covered with Calvados (strong liquor). It helps with digestion.

INGRID BOUFIGI



1. Lille, France
2. International Business
3. How welcoming everyone is. Everyone is so nice and tries to know you better.
4. France is not only Paris. Lille is a beautiful little city (you should come visit!)

AMANDINE MELON



1. Lille, France
2. English
3. Such a big city where you cannot walk at all. If you don't have a car, you can't go anywhere! Fortunately, every Centenary student is ready to give us a ride.
4. I would say that Lille is the perfect city for students who want to study abroad!

CLARA ULRICH

1. Aarhus, Denmark
2. English
3. "I actually don't feel like I've experienced a culture shock as such. More a confirmation of preconceived ideas (oh yes, we're talking stereotypes)."
4. Denmark holds the title as "the happiest country in the world".

CECILIE ANDERSEN

1. Denmark (which is not the Capital of Sweden but an actual country!)
2. English
3. My biggest culture shock here has been a very pleasant one: southern hospitality!
4. Young people in Denmark drink more than twice as much as the average European teen.

CENTENARY TO HOST HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL

By Tyler Cameryn ‘17

The Regional High School Theatre Festival is real, alive, and growing. Centenary will be offering workshops for high school students, who will be performing for each other.

“The Regional High School Theatre Festival is a festival that allows regional high schools to perform for each other [and] attend workshops on specific areas like technical work, directing, and other areas that they are not aware of besides acting,” said Chair of the Festival, Dr. Don Hooper about the program. He is currently unaware of any other festival like this one with a workshop aspect.

The festival was initially a request from a local high school teacher and esteemed alumni from Centenary, Heather Hooper. She wanted to see such a program at Centenary because no other University offered anything like it for high schoolers.

The Festival will have five local high schools coming to the event: Loyola College Prep, Caddo Magnet High, Captain Shreve, Green Oaks Performing Arts, and Northwood. Captain Shreve, Green Oaks, and Caddo Magnet will perform a short show during the festival. Dr. Hooper hopes to see performance quality increase in local high schoolers, and to open the student’s eyes to the different jobs putting on a show requires.

The Regional High School Theatre Festival runs through February 20-22. Dr. Rowe will open the Festival with a speech.

#SCE: SHAKESPEARE CRUSH EVERYDAY

By Claire Matthews ‘17

The *Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* was the most fun I’ve had in a theater since my high school arch-nemesis literally broke a leg during a production of *Guys and Dolls*. It was rude, it was witty, and it was not-at-all tasteful, and I’m sure that any Shakespeare fan would agree that the Bard himself would have loved it. We got hilarious and engaging performances with Aiden Poling’s playful overacting and Montel McKenzie’s exasperation with his fellow actors’ hijinks, and equally engaging performances by their great hair. The comic timing of Jordan and Taylor as a slew of Shakespearian bit-characters was flawless. Even the lowbrow humor and dorky prop comedy got more than a few good laughs out of me. I’m not above laughing at a well-executed pun or a pair of Groucho glasses - they’re classics for a reason, right?

One thing that really made the show, however, was a great performance by senior Árni Sigurðsson. His character was, quite frankly, a dumbass - and he *committed*. And it was awesome. Audience-interaction antics, running gags, slapstick, and heinous wigs had us giggling, groaning, chuckling, and hee-hawing like nobody’s business (shoutout to Herman Hope, whose distinctive and contagious chortle made me laugh nearly as much as the play).

I also have to commend the production team for the very nifty set and the costuming decision of Converse shoes with goofy pantaloons - a bold fashion decision indeed.

Overall, there really was never a dull moment. This play set out to do something unapologetically wild, and it absolutely accomplished it. If I hadn’t known, I never would have guessed it was student-directed. Mad props to junior director Abigail Dillard for showing Centenary a good time.

BASKETBALL

GENTS STAND AT #1

By Allie Hornsby '17

Currently, the Gents Basketball team stands number one in the SCAC with a strong lead away from the closest team.

The Gents have several standout players this season to help with leadership and points scored. In the match against Schreiner, four young men scored in the double digits. Men's hoops are also running the conference on a seven game winning streak. This streak ties with the longest streak this season. Head basketball coach, Coach Walsh, looking to the next few weeks and conference tournament says, "We control our own destiny. We need to improve on our consistency and need to rebound our opponents."

Senior Isaiah Whitaker was asked what he thinks the reason behind the team's success is and he believes "playing hard and holding your teammates accountable." Whitaker continues to say, "If you strive for the best, you will make it."

After officially transitioning to Division 3, the Gents are eligible to compete and win in the Conference Championship. Championships start February 28th in Irving Texas.

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relation

LADIES STILL HAVE HEART

By Gage Dabin '18

This past Friday, the Ladies basketball team fell to Trinity with a result of 33-100.

The Ladies started out strong with a lead from Rebecca Thompson who lead the team with a double-double -- which was 14 rebounds and 11 points! Following her lead with points, and offensive endeavors were Haley Deshuatelle and Briana Edwards each respectively with 8 points.

The team fought valiantly, but they could not match the tempo presented by Trinity, who connected roughly 73% of the time compared to the Ladies' 23%, which resulted in the extreme difference in the scores that evening. The loss may have showed that there is still room to grow, but it also displays that when faced against a formidable opponent, the Ladies spirit never wavered.

Coach Kristen Davis at the Dallas game

BASKETBALL

ON TRACK TO SCAC CHAMPIONSHIP

By Gage Dabin ‘18

The Gents basketball team at Centenary is the team to beat this season in the SCAC conference, as they are currently in first place!

For the past six games, the Gents have brought home wins, and have shown heart and dedication in their fast paced style of play. The Gents established at home whose court Trinity was playing on by thwarting any form of a comeback from them. The Gents beat Trinity 77-64, and more than four players posted double digit points for scoring.

The lead scorer for the Gents was Travion Kirkendoll, with an impressive 19 points. Although at half time the Gents were behind by two points, they came out of the locker room with tenacious energy. They scored 54 points the second half to Trinity’s measly 34.

The success of the program can be attributed to their desire to be the best, to play the hardest, and to win the conference, a goal that isn’t a dream but a tangible possibility.

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

JAMES SAPP

By Allie Hornsby ‘17

No one can deny that Sophomore James Sapp has had a groundbreaking year for men’s hoops. The SCAC has named Sapp player of the week four times this year. Coach Walsh says that James’s “confidence has grown increasingly since last year.” James Sapp currently averages 15.8 points per game and leads the SCAC in scoring and second in rebounds.

We asked James who he wants to be, and he said that he “wants to be someone the guys can depend on. Leading the conference in scoring feels good, but it’s not about me. Its about the team winning.”

James transferred into Centenary and changed sports at the same time. Sapp says that he choose Centenary because “it’s close to home, the academics are outstanding, and when I toured, I immediately felt like part of the family.” Sapp hopes to one day be a physician’s assistant.

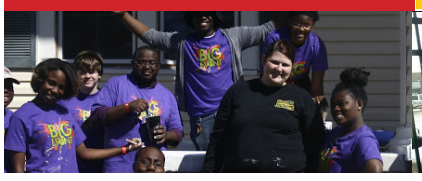
Comments or concerns? Want to contribute? Email us at cconglomerate@gmail.com

RECYCLE ME!

FREE

MARCH 14, 2015

NEWS



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GENTS DRIVE ON TO VICTORY

By Allie Hornsby

At the conclusion of an incredible season for basketball, the Gents receive a portion of the regular conference title as well as a bid to the SCAC Championship Tournament in Irving, Texas.

Centenary, receiving a first round bid, tipped off Saturday, February 28th a little after 7pm. The Gents were not alone in Irving however. Thanks to a bill passed by SGA, a spirit bus transported students to cheer on the Gents. The support and love for the Gents was so evident in the "Maroon Mob" the Sportsgram commentator pointed out that it was "nearly a home game for [Centenary]; they've brought so many fans."

Victory for the Gents

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relation

After quite an aggressive back and forth, the Maroon and White were victorious over Southwestern advancing to the Sunday afternoon finals against first seeded Texas Lutheran. It was clear from the moment the game began it would be close. After much back and forth the Gents held the lead drawing into halftime. The stands were packed with supporters from all over the conference and our very special Maroon Mob. As Centenary flags waved over the crowd, the Gents played a tough game.

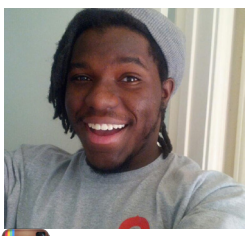
Kirkendoll put up 18 points and Sapp held 9 rebounds. The Gents played till the very last second where they fell 80-75. Though not claiming SCAC Champions, the Gents do have other claims to victory. James Sapp, Travion Kirkendoll, and Kendall Demouchet were all named to to the All-SCAC first team. Kirkendoll also is joint Newcomer of the Year, and Sapp was named Player of the Year. At the conclusion of the tournament Sapp and Kirkendoll were also named to the 2015 All-tournament team.

Though the Gents didn't claim the Championship, they did claim victory. We will drive to victory until "Old Centenary stands right at the top."

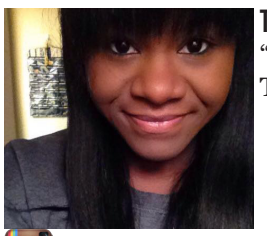
WE ASK YOU:

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE GIRL SCOUT COOKIE?

By Zach Stielper '17



JASON WOODS
"My favorites would be the Trefoils [shortbread], because sometimes simplicity is the best way to go!"
Instagram: @speakernight

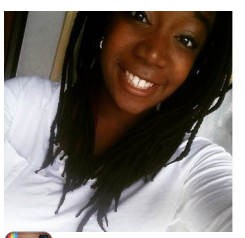


TAMARA JOHNSON
"Caramel deLites and Thin Mints!"
Instagram: @ heyheytammyj

HANNAH HASTIE
"Lemon Smiles!"
Instagram: @hannahhastie

LEXI ROSS
"Thin Mints all the way!"
Instagram: @tyrannosauruslex78

JAMIE WRIGHT
"Without a doubt, Thin Mints!"
Instagram: @jmwright432



NINJIA MILES
"So, fun fact: I've never eaten a girl-scout cookie. Lol."
Instagram: @ohhhniii_

THE BIG EVENT

By Reily Cook '16

This year's Centenary BIG Event, coming up on March 27th, is once again shaping up to be a major service day for the Shreveport area. Many consider the BIG Event to be the largest student-led volunteer day in America, and joining with Centenary to beautify the Highland area is a fun, supportive way to locally make a nationwide impact.

The BIG Event's tagline is "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." Every year, students, faculty, staff, and alumni join in a Centenary-led movement to beautify the neighborhoods surrounding Centenary College. The BIG Event allows the Centenary community a chance to connect and join with the Shreveport community, as volunteers can aid in city-wide activities such as home improvement and basic landscaping. This event coincides with the warm spring weather, and it provides a good opportunity for students and the Centenary community to get outside and support the local area that supports Centenary.

Each year since 2008, over 200 volunteers have participated in the BIG Event, and this year looks to be just as involved. Sororities, Fraternities, Athletic Teams, and SGA are just a few of the various campus organizations that participate in the BIG Event every year. Last year, at the 7th annual BIG Event, students spent their warm Saturday morning raking, painting, washing houses and windows, and working with community members. A few of the sites served were the MLK Health Center, the Salvation Army, the Sankofa Community Garden, Common Ground, the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, and of course, the homes of people living right around Centenary College.

Proud volunteers at last year's BIG Event

The BIG Event started as a volunteer event at Texas A&M; Holly Williams brought the volunteer day to Centenary in 2008, and Centenary has been involved every year since. This will be the eighth anniversary of the event. If you are interested in getting involved with this year's BIG Event, visit the event's webpage at www.centenary.edu/bigevent. It will be updated with information about how to get involved.

Download a waiver at centenary.edu/bigevent/waivers, and send questions to thebigevent@centenary.edu.

TEENAGE DRAMA:

CENTENARY HOSTS HIGH SCHOOL THEATER CONFERENCE

By Mark Sheperd '17

So you think theater is all fun and games, do you? Well, it is. Sometimes, however, they like to participate in cult-like activities.

On February 20th through the 22nd, students from the Shreveport-Bossier area presented short plays representing their school, took workshops presented by both students and professors, and toured Centenary's beautiful and occasionally hectic campus. Obvious recruitment plug aside, the students learned acting techniques, how to survive as a theater major at the collegiate level, and maybe drank some Kool-Aid along the way.

Don Hooper, the Chair of Centenary's Theater department, and Logan Sledge will help these fledgling Barbara Streisands and Hugh Jackmans with constructive criticism immediately after each performance. Hopefully, there won't be anyone getting the hook this year. Or any adaptations of the film known as Yentl.

Now, this article may or may not have answered your question yet. "Why is this festival regional?" Well, even if you weren't thinking that before, I've brought it to the forefront now! It's funny how words can manipulate a reader's train of thought so easily! After the completion of this year's festival, the Theater Department's goal is to garner interest from more local schools in the Ark-La-Tex area. Joe Signorelli, professional theater clown, spoke to me about the festival. "Other schools in the Ark-L-Tex area will be invited in order to improve recruitment to Centenary and open the opportunity to more young artists." Like any good clown cult, they need fresh new recruits to come and join their cause. Otherwise, who will make the Biology majors crack a smile once every ten thousand years? Who will make the Chemistry majors see the shining light at the end of the dark, carbon-encrusted tunnel?

It's not my job, that's for sure. I'm just the one who write articles and plays video games.

NO FRILLS? NO PROBLEM

By Tyler Cameryn '17

Centenary RHA memebers Simone Byrd (2nd from left) and Chelsea Glaspie (middle) get their party on

From Friday, February 13th to the 15th, RHA attend the annual two day No Frills conference at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. No Frills is a conference where Residence Life staff from all across the southern states comes together to reward exemplary service and share ideas. The first day consisted of viewing and voting on bids that were submitted by the schools in attendance (a bid is a report like document that nominates a student for an award or position). The next day, the delegates went to their separate boardrooms. Ninja Miles, the current delegate for Centenary (NCC), and Chelsea Glaspie (NCC-it), her successor, voted on legislation and bids. Ryan Flanagan, current Residence Hall Association President, and his successor, Tyler Cameryn, voted on bids as well.

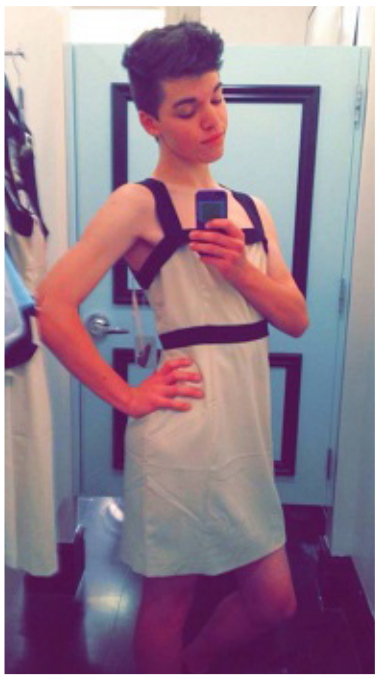
From SWACURH, RHA bid for these awards:
Our Campus Market (OCM)
First Year Experience Nominee: Chelsea Glaspie
School of the Year
Advisor of the Year Nominee: Justin Kirkes
NCC of the Year Nominee: Hannah Bergeron
Commitment to Sustainability
The Hallenbeck Service Award: Bethany Stafford (WINNER)
Student of the Year Nominee: Ninjia Miles.

Bethany Stafford received The Hallenbeck Service Award, an huge honor at the No Frills Conference. Even though our other bids did not take home first place, the information and experience the students gained from this experience will propel them to create a better life for their residents.

REMEMBERING LEELAH

By John La Costa '18

On February 19, Centenary's series of Third Thursday discussion covered a very crucial topic: the recent passing of Leelah Alcorn, and the concentration of LGBT suicide in the US.



Leelah Alcorn

Most of us on campus learned quickly of Leelah—a 17 year old girl from Ohio—who committed suicide at the conclusion of a terrible struggle with her parents in regard to the acceptance and expression of her gender identity. Having been designated male at birth, yet ultimately identifying as a female, Leelah found acceptance in loving friends and companions, only to struggle with her mother and father at home. Leelah was subjected to the harsh and medically-taboo process of gender conversion therapy as opposed to programs—such as hormone replacement—which would have enabled and eased her transition.

Leelah documented her journey of self-discovery via Tumblr, where she ultimately posted her suicide note. On December 28, 2014, Leelah walked into oncoming traffic and ended her life.

Leelah was not the first LGBT suicide that entranced the media; in 1998, openly gay student Matthew Shepard was found on the brink of death in Laramie, Wisconsin, only to die in hospital care shortly after. Matthew's mother—who has since become a world renowned activist—privileged Centenary College with a visit this past fall. This repeat of catastrophe indicates that troubles for LGBT youth are still as prevalent as with any other minority.

Events like the Third Thursday Discussion and guest speakers like Mrs. Shepard are indicative of Centenary's commitment to the improvement of the lives of LGBT+, both on campus, and off.

THE TIME I DIDN'T GO TO COMIC-CON

By Adam Stephens '15

I owe our readers an apology. On February 21, the Louisiana Comic Con was held at the Bossier Civic Center. Featured attractions included famous guests such as Nicholas Brendon and Jerrad Venovich, various vendors and artists, cosplay contests, and gathered fan communities such as Southern Geek and Dagobah Base.

And I wish I could give you more in-depth, detailed information about said events, as well as a description of what Centenary students attended and anything of interest they did. But I cannot. Because not only did I not get into Comic Con, I didn't even come close to getting into Comic Con. I could not, under oath, say in a court of law that I was certain there even was a Comic Con. There was one heck of a line.

See, in my naïveté, I had assumed that arriving ten minutes before the official start of Comic Con (10:00 A.M.), I would be able to purchase my ticket in a reasonable amount of time and enter the building by, oh, before lunchtime, at least? But as it turned out, the attendance at Comic Con was so absurdly high, it took me roughly half an hour just to park my car; the line of cars trying to park for this event was so long, I had to go through two stoplights before I even saw the building the event was held in. And then it took me another ten minutes just to get in line, because not only was the line to get in the building absurdly long, it turned out that there was a separate line to actually purchase a ticket. And that line was so long that by the time I reached the end, I ended up near the mall.

But the real cherry on top was that after roughly an hour of waiting to get maybe an eighth of the way through the line (these time estimates aren't intentional hyperbole, by the way; these are honest estimations), people started to come down the line to say that they weren't letting more people in due to fire codes. And by the way, this was roughly around the time when the rain started coming down hard enough to make some people in the line worry about flash floods.

At that point, I decided to file this experience under "Oh Well, I Tried" and subsequently bolted to my car. Despite that minor hiccup, I rather enjoyed my experience at Comic Con. It might have been nice to have actually attended Comic Con at some point, but I did get an opportunity to see some very well-done cosplays, such as: Scorpion from Mortal Kombat; obscure Batman villain Black Mask; not-so-obscure Batman villain the Joker (who, interestingly, was played by multiple women); a Spider-Girl with pink hair (wait, was that part of the costume?); Leonardo from TMNT (who cheaped out by only having one sword); a guy dressed as the Flash who was ironically one of the first people to go running when it started raining; Jack Skellington; multiple anime characters; a Jedi Knight; and, my personal favorite, Guy Who Wore a Superhero Shirt Because He Didn't Want to Pay for an Actual Costume.

In the end, if I had anything to say to our readers about Louisiana Comic Con, it's this: If you ever decide to go to a comic convention, then a) buy your tickets in advance, b) arrive three hours before the convention actually starts, and c) bring an umbrella. Or a diving suit. You could say it's your costume.

Centenary students brave the rain to show their pride

WORKING HARD OR HARDLY WORKING?

FEDERAL WORK STUDY IN NEED OF SOME REEVALUATION

By Chelsea Glaspie '18

Federal Work Study is in need of some reevaluation.

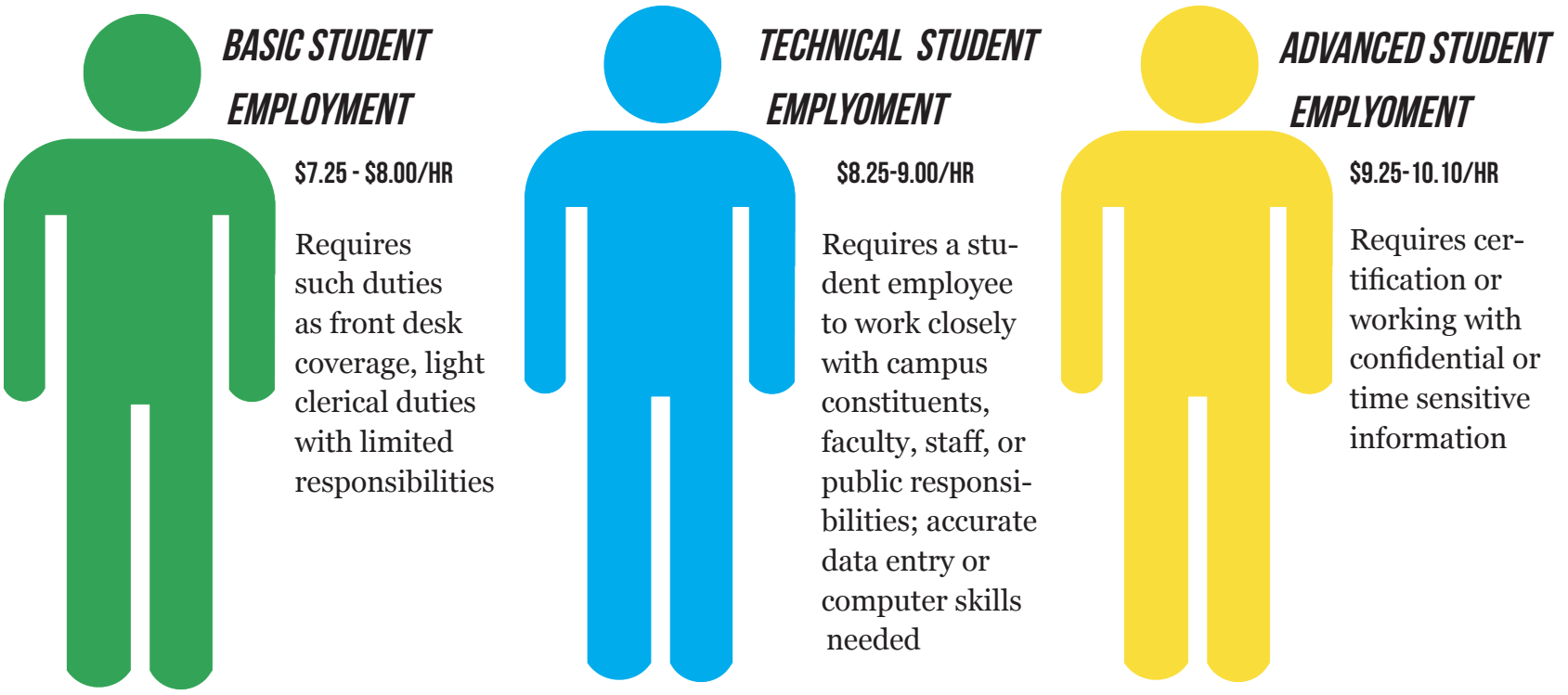
Since I began my journey at Centenary, I noticed several issues with the work study program.
The first of these issues is the work ethic of many students who are employed through work study. We are a society obsessed with incentives. Many of the students have their work study check deposited directly to pay tuition fees. With this method, they never physically see the check. This may be an explanation as to why many feel as though they are volunteering and have no incentive to go into work.

In addition to this, the faculty and staff are at a disadvantage because they cannot discipline or discharge the students from the program should they not fulfill their duties. Students are simply moved to a new job regardless of work ethic or dedication.

The second issue with the current situation is the lack of professionalism and inadequate training of the students. Many students are employed at administrative offices or have clerical jobs that in the real world would require a certain decorum and skill set. Work study places students in jobs they are "qualified for" (whether or not they can use Microsoft word, basically). If these students were to apply for the same job in the real market, most would probably not receive a second glance due to inexperience and lack of skills. Many of these students work in places where they are the face of Centenary (Hamilton Hall, the SUB, Frost School of Business, etc.). In the real job market, workers in the same position would be trained in professional etiquette and be required to dress professionally. Many times I have entered these establishments to see unkempt students with headphones and otherwise engaged in cellular activity.

One example of this is clear in my memory. Around midterms last semester, I needed a form from a certain office. I walked in to see the student at the front desk clothed in a hoodie and sweats with Beats headphones on. I asked where the form was, I was ignored. I asked again. After the fifth time, I eventually left. I had never felt so frustrated. What if I had been a business person or potential donor or student? I understand we all have our off days. Had this been an isolated incident, I probably would have forgotten it. However, I have had this happen several times.

Until recently, I did not understand the real underlying problem. My macroeconomics class gave me a possible explanation. I spoke to Dr. Christensen, an economics professor from the Frost School of Business. He explained the levels of student employment:


BASIC STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
$7.25 - $8.00/HR
Requires such duties as front desk coverage, light clerical duties with limited responsibilities
TECHNICAL STUDENT EMPLYOMENT
$8.25-9.00/HR
Requires a student employee to work closely with campus constituents, faculty, staff, or public responsibilities; accurate data entry or computer skills needed
ADVANCED STUDENT EMPLYOMENT
$9.25-10.10/HR
Requires certification or working with confidential or time sensitive information

Students are usually awarded $2,000-$2,500 in Federal Work Study funds for the academic year. Therefore, the time that a student can work is limited. It breaks down like this:
Basic Student: 275 hours
Technical Student: 242 hours
Advanced Student: 216 hours

If you then take that and divide it by the number of hours in an academic year you get:
Basic Student: 9 hours per week
Technical Student: 8 hours per week
Advanced Student: 7 hours per week

Between the basic and technical student there is a 33 hour difference, and between the technical and advanced there is a 59 hour difference. That is a huge gap. Professors are then forced to make a choice: quantity or quality? You could have a mediocre worker who can work longer or a skilled worker who can actually perform. Many professors would like students to help with research and data collection, but they are unable to do so because of the restrictions placed on the number of hours the students can work.

Also, what skills qualify students to be placed? Students should start college on an equal playing field -- everyone at a similar task and responsibility load. The students should then be judged on their ability and get promoted (like in the real world!). Those students who prove themselves worthy should then be given a small (yet gratifying) pay raise. They should have a set number of hours they can work and any funds not covered by work study should be compensated by the school.

After the exploration of these issues, I hope that we may see reform in this area. Our campus relies heavily on student workers. And because it contributes to our infrastructure, this issue should be carefully reviewed and reformed.

BASKETBALL

ELECTRIFYING GAME FOR GENTS' SENIOR NIGHT

By Allie Hornsby '17

Friday, February 13th the Gents Basketball Team honored their 5 seniors. Participating in their last night in the Gold Dome were Isaiah Whitaker, Caden Cheramie, Hayward Martin, and Saro Ntagha.

This last showing was one to remember with a 66-65 win over Texas Lutheran University. A press release from GoCentenary said, "Centenary, which never trailed in the outing, held off a late surge by the Bulldogs who tied the contest at 65-all on a 3-pointer by Jordan Kouremetis with seconds remaining in the game. The Maroon and White, however, broke the deadlock as Demouchet knocked down the front end of a pair of free-throws to regain the lead at 66-65 with one tick remaining."

This sure was a great send-off for our seniors.

SOFTBALL

BACK IN THE SWING OF THINGS

By Gage Dabin '18

The Ladies opened their season by winning a double-header against Rust University. Their goal for the first game was to set the tempo, and to then carry that tempo over to the second game. The Ladies ended the first game early due to the mercy rule, as the Ladies had scored 15 runs to Rust's 0. The second game played to the same tune as the Ladies won 15-1. The conditioning and focus ingrained into the Ladies during the offseason was on display; the Ladies stole more bases than you count, and every at bat resulted in either a run earned or the installment of another Lady on base. In every sense of the word, the Ladies crushed it.

The freshmen worked in tandem with the upperclassmen to put together a strong defense, and an even stronger offense. The way they played that day makes the rest of their season—and the seasons to come—a time to watch closely as a powerhouse is forming on Centenary's campus.

vCourtesy of Centenary's External Relation

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relation

LACROSSE

LAX DEMONSTRATES PERSERVERENCE

Courtesy of Centenary's External Relation

By Gage Dabin '18

Centenary's Lacrosse team has lost to an aggregate score of 51-1. Needless to say, a defeat is usually hard for a team to bear; defeats can mar the confidence of players and team unity.

However, this trend and behavior is not present in the Lacrosse team. The losses remind the team that in times of dire circumstances that the most important factor is playing with all you have no matter the score.

> "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it."
>
> ***- Maya Angelou***

This practice was implemented in the first game, when the Gents were down 29-0. Lauren Lepore, in an attempt to prevent another shot from scoring, checked a Hendrix player so hard that it stopped the game. Likewise, the freshman goalie, Colten Toups, recorded 15 saves, which was five times as much as Hendrix. Against Birmingham Southern, the drive to win was shown as Matt Ferrell scored the lone goal for the Gents, and Coulton Toups again recorded eight saves for the Gents from within the goal.

The Gents have encountered defeats, but the defeats have not defined them. Rather, the Gents look to each game as a chance to win, and even in a loss they find victory as they see ways to improve.

Support our Ladies and Gents whenever you get the chance!

GYMNASTICS

LADIES FLEX THEIR TALENT

By Gage Dabin '18

The Ladies gymnastics team has had a good start to their season.

On February 6th, the Ladies surpassed Wisconsin-Eau Claire with a so far season high score of 190.325 to claim the dual meet title.

Taking home the crown of overall champion was freshman Ashley White who scored a 38.750 for all events. The Ladies Sylvia Keiter came in second with a 37.525 which is a season high for her too.

Accompanying the amazing performance by the ladies was their drive to represent Breast Cancer awareness. The meet's theme was Think Pink, which was hosted Zeta Tau Alpha. The ladies supported this this philanthropic effort by donning leotards with pink stripes pink hairbows.

The performance and the drive to win not only was exemplified by their scores both as a team and individuals, but by their solidarity represented through their limitless support for one another.

The Ladies will next be heading to Denton, Texas to compete against Texas Women's University on the 21st.

EARN CASH
WHILE SAVING
LIVES
Short on cash?
We can help you while you help someone in need by donating Life Saving Blood Plasma.
New donors can earn up to $50 their first week.
• Eat a good meal
• Bring a photo ID & proof of Social Security Number & local Address
NOW OPEN
IMMUNOTEK BIO CENTERS
9025 Mansfield Road
Shreveport, LA 71118
318-703-6060
Sign Up to be a donor today at
www.immunotek.com
TUESDAY-SATURDAY
10AM-4PM
SH-1000530607